

Dear Sir,

I flatter myself you will not doubt of my
real zeal to serve you, and you may depend upon it, that before I leave
England, I will sollicite Lord Chatham to get you post, in which
I dare say L^d Howe will joyn me, but whether he does or not, you may
assure yourself, I will try it to the utmost; I desire however that my
application should be generall, and I must leave Sir Charles Sanders to
chuse among such openings as shall not be at too great a distance of
time. The very reason given by the D. of York, that this is perhaps the
only thing he may have the disposal of would be a sufficient motive for
me to forbear pressing this affair in too circumscribed and particular a manner,
but I have another private argument against urging it thro' the channel
you mention in any other method, than that which I mention above.
I have taken in favor of Capⁿ Bickerton within little more than a
month the very same steps, and have thro' L^d B. procured him a command,
Sir C. S. has in severall little requests, I have since been obliged to trouble
him with for my friends at Southampton, shewn me much deference
and regard, now I would leave yourself to judge, whether it would
be acting with a good grace, to attempt so soon in some degree perhaps
to constrain him by a superior authority, joyned to past obligations; I
make no doubt whatever to prevail speedily for you, and I should

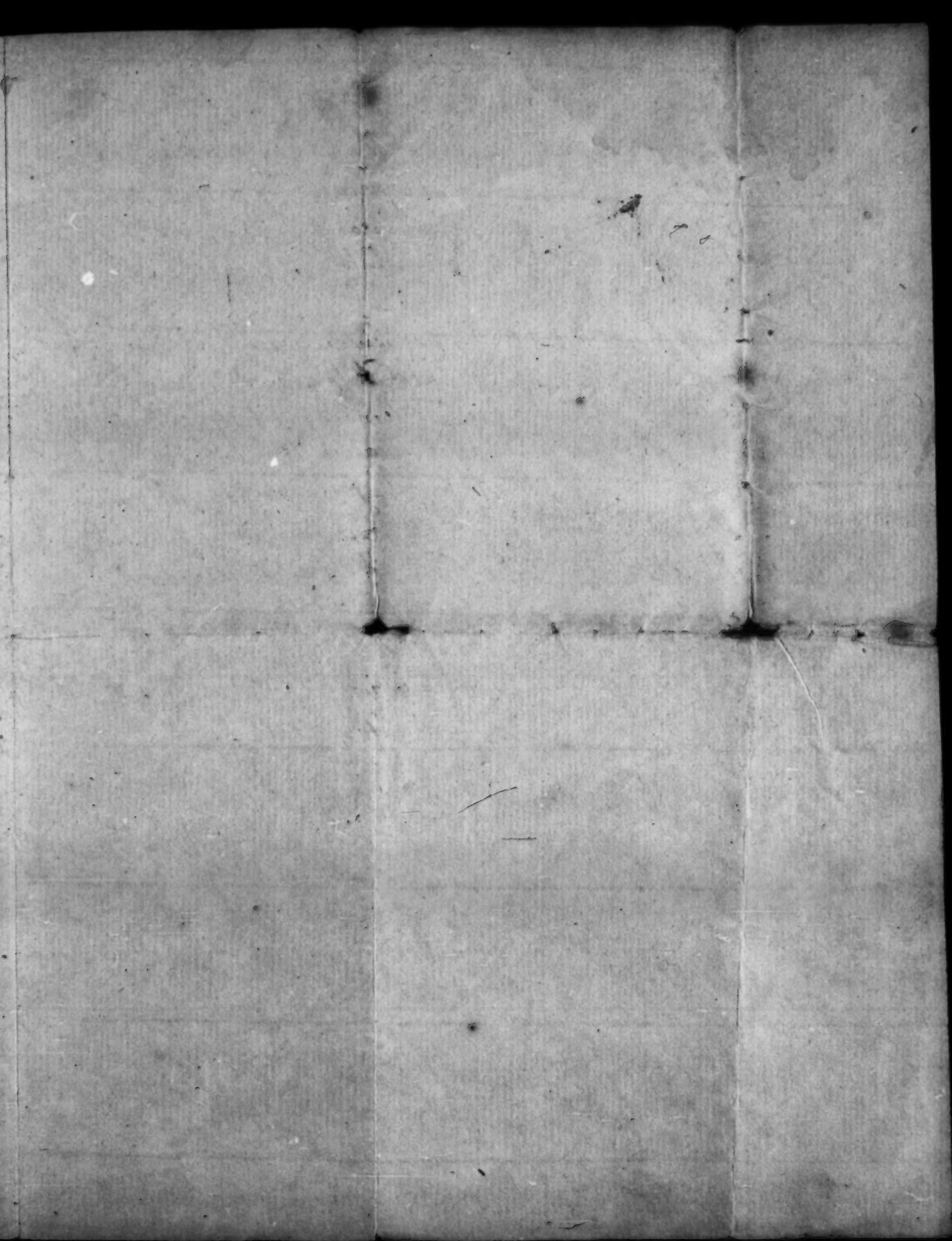
hesitate still more, if I did not think that the aiming absolutely to force the present point might place you in an invidious light with a great officer in the state, as well as in his particular profession, and that your obtaining post in a manner less disagreeable to him might finally be more advantageous to yourself.

As Mr. D. of York, has not this particular reason, I think it would be not improper in H. H. H. and very useful to you, if he was to sound J. C. S. on the subject, without a positive demand, and express his good wishes to you, which joined to the other measures to be taken in support of your pretensions, would I think greatly facilitate your obtaining rank soon. I shall be very happy to see you here in your return from town, and shall ever be with the most affectionate regards,

Dear Sir,

Paulton Oct^r 19th
1766.

Your most Obedient
and Faithfull Servt
H. Stanley



9th March
C.A. 1786

Privy Garden. Jan: 16th 1771.

Dear Sir,

I very sincerely regretted the not having the pleasure of seeing you at Steple, where severall of your friends in the Island joyned with me in commemorating the Yearfest: It will be a great satisfaction to me to repair that loss, if your affairs should permitt you to return to London, whether I am so happy as to see you again before you sail to the Mediterranean, or whether that meeting is to be longer delayed, I can faithfully assure you, that you will allways carry with you the warmest good wishes of one who has ever much esteemed you, but who has had it but little in his power to give you any cherisheal proofs of his regard: I know not any particular commissions, I should wish to trouble you with for the Mediterranean, but I shall improve upon your goodness, if any should occur, while you remain there.

I am exceedingly obliged to you for recollecting the circumstance of the purchase; the late year has from my reflection, and some other circumstances, been very expensive to me, and tho' I do not play at all deep, I have been likewise so unlucky in

the gaming way, that I have very little loose money for objects of mere
fancy, and amusement, therefore I confess I should not at present think
of that purchase unless I was tempted by an under price, and it
might not be quite so civil to treat with Mr Hanway, by an offer
of that sort; but if you knew what value he sets upon it, I could
better judge how far it would suit me.

I dispatched to you yesterday a letter which came under cover
to me, I was in too great haste to be able to write at that time.

As I am now returned to London, you will exceedingly oblige
me in employing me during your own absence in any matter,
in which I may have an opportunity of shewing the affectionate
attachment with which I am,

Dear Sir

Your most Obedient,
and most Humble Servant
J. Hervey



W Stanley

17 Jan'y. 1771

Paulton. Aug: 20th 1771.

Dear Sir,

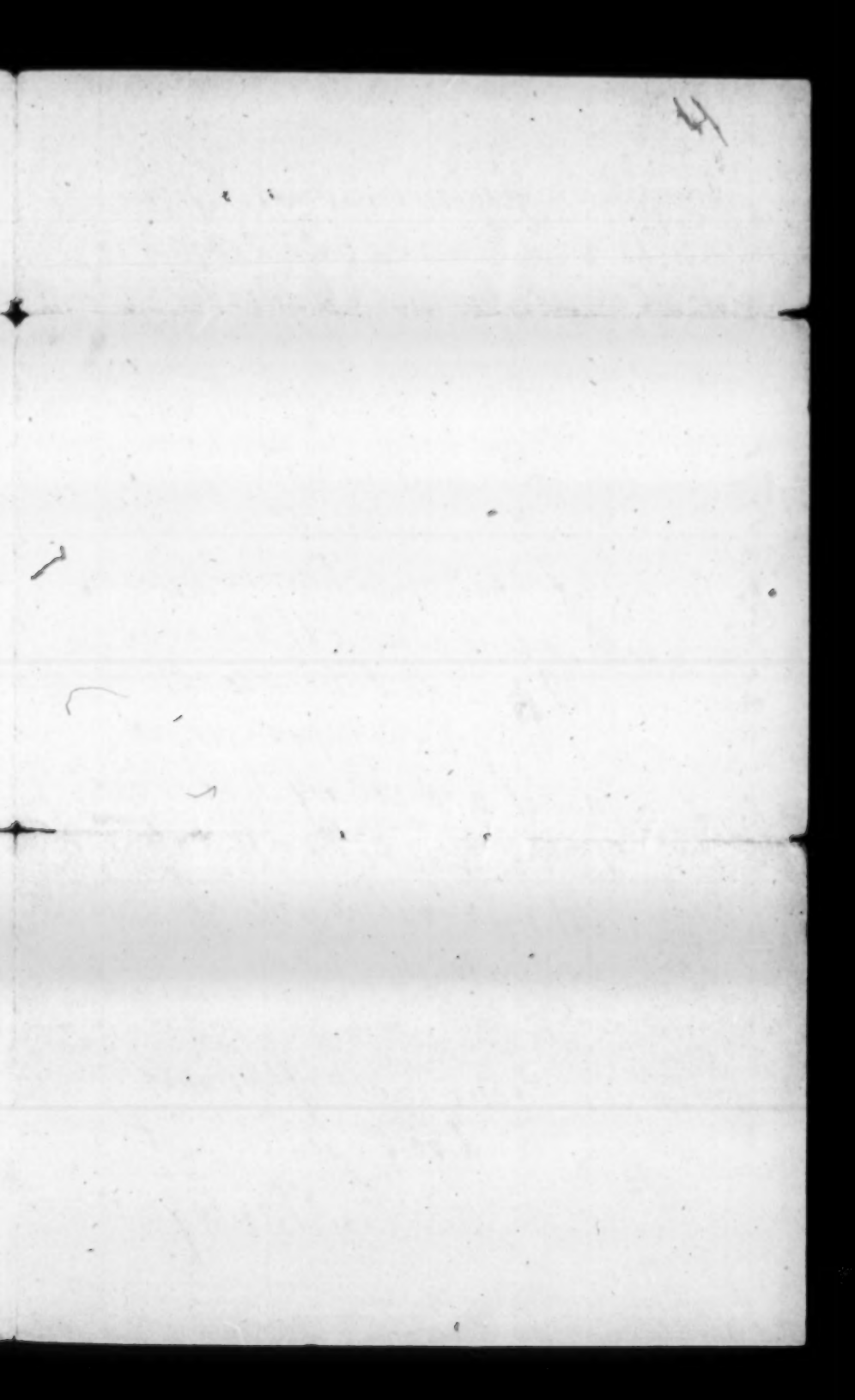
I am extremely obliged
to you for your late mark of attention
to me of the 15th; I received about ten
days ago a letter from the person, I ex=
pected to meet at Dieppe, which I will
show you when we meet, he excuses him=
self on account of the very peculiar
situation of his country; I believe, you
will remember that this was not very
unexpected to me. I have consequently no
immediate errand, altho I should always
like to attend you in any short excursion,
if our times happened to coincide. I leave
this place the 24th, to go to Mr James
★ The Prince of Conde

Greenwich in Somersetshire and from
thence to Lord Barrington's, I expect to
be at home about the 10th or 12th Sep^r
when I shall probably have the pleasure
of meeting you, as you will be at Portsmouth;

My disappointment in not going with
you to Dieppe is inconsiderable compared
to the regret I feel upon hearing you are
likely to be so long absent: It is so delicate
a point, and depends, I think so entirely
upon what may have passed between
Lord Sandwich and yourself, that I hardly
can condemn your resolution, tho' all your
friends must wish it some how altered,
and none more warmly than,

Dear Sir,

Your most affectionate
and very Obedient Serv^t
H. Stanley



20 Augth 1771

High Hill. Isle of Wight. Aug: 9th 1772.

Dear Sir,

I am not a little ashamed, when I consider at how late a date I acknowledge the favour of your letter, but the truth is, that I have so long delayed writing to you in hopes of being able to make a satisfactory return to the Commission, with which you were pleased to intrust me. Your confidence was so far well placed, that ~~consequently~~ I lost no time in transmitting your memorial to Lord Hillsborough with the warmest recommendation on my part; I have received no answer from His Lordship, tho' in returning him thanks for a favor of another kind he was pleased to do me, I reminded him of that application: I have not the smallest reason to think that his silence has proceeded either from any objection to you, or any slight intended to myself, to whom he has ever appeared rather kindly disposed, but I conceive this extraordinary circumstance has arisen from a situation to which perhaps you are not entirely a stranger; there has long been a dispute between him, and some others of the Cabinet about the propriety of settling and cultivating lands farther to the

Westward upon the back of our Colonies; and if I am not mistaking
(for I have no Copy of your paper) towards that very tract of country
which is your object; This difference of opinion has been carried
so high, that it was generally believed, His Lordship would
resign, and tho' an Idea now prevails, that he has carried his
point, and is to remain at the head of the American department,
I believe the matter to be still very uncertain; of this, I believe, you
may be very sure, that nothing could have been done in
consequence of your request during the present posture of that
affair.

In your letter which preceded that from Boston of May
26th, you mentioned a former favor of yours, but it has never
reached my hands: I had by report from others who had
heard from you, but an ill account of your health, which
gave me a great deal of uneasiness, from the sincere and
real friendship I shall always bear you: I heartily wish my own
situation would have admitted my making a third person
in your agreeable society with Col: Dalrymple, and I rejoice
much, that you find New England in other respects so much
to your wishes.

Your friends in this Island are all very well as you left them, Mr Holmes is going to marry his eldest daughter to Mr Worsley of Gatecombe, Mr Sloane is married to S. Fuller's youngest daughter, whom I think you have seen, and who is a very agreeable girl, and I believe well suited to him in all respects, Commodore Rogers, who is in the house, and desires his best Compliments continues married to Mrs Rogers, that is to say she is alive, and not worse. I, who among all these marriages remained a Bachelor have passed this summer between Wales, and the Isle of Wight, and propose in the Autumn making a tour to Brompton, and from thence to Paris; the rather because some alterations are going on at Paulsons, which I hope you will approve when you see them, but which render my mansion not habitable for the present. I think myself unhappy, that your walk of life divides you so long from me, I shall always have a great pleasure in our being again united, and shall wait for that day with an impatience founded upon the very sincere attachment, with which I am, Dear Sir,

Your most Obedient,
and most humble Servant

H. Stanley

W. Stanley
9th Aug. 1772

response

Shore



Staple. Aug: 30th 1772.

Dear Sir,

I had the honor of writing to you on the 9th Instant, which Letter I desired Mr Stephens to convey to your station, where I hope it will have reached you; you will have found in it the reasons of a silence, which appeared to me too long, and what I then imagined to be the state of the affair, about which I presented your memorial: But since that time, matters have taken a different turn, from what might then have been expected; Lord Hillsborough having resigned upon that very account, of Settlements being to be carried into the interior parts of America, contrary to his opinion: Tho' this was, I understand, His Lordship's only motive, yet I am told, that even now there remain many difficulties in the way of that Plan, which he opposed: I have written to Mr Pownall Secretary to that department, to lay your memorial, with my humble recommendation of it, before Lord Dartmouth, and if I receive an answer from him, before I find an opportunity

of forwarding this, I shall add it to my Letter; But you hear from me earlier than I should otherwise have written, because this will be delivered you by an old acquaintance of yours Mr Vint, whom with the fullest confidence, I beg leave to put under your protection.

He returned about a month ago from the Mediterranean, and as I not only think, he cannot be in so good hands, but recollect your having very kindly said, you should be willing to be troubled with him, I have had nothing more at heart, than to seize the first occasion of sending him to you: I am upon the whole very well satisfied with his improvements; and the character given him by the officers, he has sailed with, but as I wish to do him real service I must communicate the hints I have received about him. I am told he is a youth of a good, and clear spirit, and courage, sharp and intelligent in what he applies to, generous, and well tempered, but at the same time extravagant, very indelicate in his amours, and possessed of a most violent itch for gaming, As to the Ladies, I have not had much means of trying him, but the Bills he has drawn upon me are sufficient proof of his prodigality, and his Love of Play is apparent every hour in the day, as he seems to be quite without disguise. I am not

simple enough to suppose you proposed of any Nostrum, which can
be reckoned a radical Antidote against these evils, but as they are the
more dangerous from his being so very young, if they now prevail, so,
I flatter myself, they are somewhat more easily checked, if you are
so kind as to attend to him; More experience, and reflection may
in time have a very good effect, but the immediate point is to
guard against his getting into such sort of scrapes, as may be very
prejudicial to him, before he has well looked out of his Eggs shell.
I have the satisfaction to find, that at least his vices have not led
him into low Company, for which he seems to have a thorough
aversion, and as his ~~circumstances~~ ^{allowances} allow of a liberal allowance,
I beg leave to refer that point entirely without reserve to yourself;
I think, you had best in an amicable manner settle the point of
his income, in such a way as you will be able to convince him
is amply sufficient, and reasonable, after which you will rigidly
insist upon his confining himself within those bounds, for his most
essential future interest, and if he exceeds them, it will be necessary
for his own sake, that he should feel the inconvenience of that extrava-
gance. After Commodore Proby left the Mediterranean, and his
Captain died, to whom I had successively given credit to draw Bills
upon me, he assumed that province, and has made such a thorough
use of it, that I am determined to take it out of his hands for the
future, I shall therefore beg of you, to take that trouble upon yourself

and if you find him outrunning the Constable, to inculcate the absolute certainty, that any such draughts in his own name, will be most infallibly protected by his obedient Humble servant; a disgrace which, as he has notions of honor, he will not chuse to subject himself to. I will add one Item more, I am no judge of his proficiency in navigation, he has certainly a very good capacity, and his Officers speak very well as to that Article, but it is scarcely credible how Schoolmasters impose upon Parents, and Guardians, he used by the help of a ruled paper to make out fair quittes to me, but now that he is left to himself, he both pens, and spells like a Scullion; I beg you will not only recommend ~~Messrs. Gyles and Bailey~~, but endeavour to get him to apply to the acquisition of a tolerable good hand. — Captain Howe of the Cruizer Sloop is just come in, to take my Pupils away; which obliges me to cut short, I beg my Compliments to Col: Dalrymple, who will have had a letter from L^d Barrington, I hope agreeable to his wishes; I intended to have written to him, if I had had another hour, but will take the first opportunity. Your friends in this Island are all well.

I am most affectionately yours,

H. Stanley.

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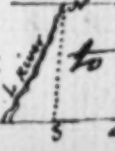
Arthusa at New York 6th Dec: 1772

Dear Sir

John E. Hammond
No 7-

The Cruiser Sloop had so tedious a passage
hither, that she did not arrive untill a few days ago,
having, as I understand put into Carolina and some
other places in her way. I think myself exceeding obliged
to you Sir for this proof of your regard in sending
Felia to me; and you may be assured of my shewing
him all the attention that is in my power. He is at
present a wild sort of a spark, but as we have to do with
a Lad of a good Capacity, who seems sensible of his follies,
and how much he has neglected himself, I have no
doubt but he will still turn out a very clever fellow.
I shall take care to put an end to his extravagance,
as I mean to allow him fifty pounds a year only for
his whole expences; which is as much as any
young man onboard the ship has, and which I
have convinced him is amply sufficient & reasonable.

I have had the honor to receive the two letters you sent by Captain Howe, but I have not yet received that you mention to have written to me on the 9th of August. It perhaps may be enclosed in the Admiral's packet, and in that case I shall receive it in a few days. I am very much concerned that you should have had so much trouble about the memorial, which I imagined at the time I took the liberty to send it to you, would not have been attended with any difficulty whatever, as it did not appear to me to interfere in the least degree with Lord Hillsborough's plan, as you will easily conceive when I have related the case to you. In the beginning of the last year orders were sent out to draw a certain boundary line between the Colony of Virginia and the Hunting Grounds of the Indians. Commissioners were accordingly appointed and met the Indians for that purpose, who when they came upon the spot, told the commissioners, that if they went a small distance farther West than was directed by Government, they would find a River running ^{towards the} North & South which would carry them to the exact North point of the Boundary.

intended to be drawn; to which they agreed, as a River
it certainly a better mark for ascertaining bounds, than
a line drawn through woods by marking the Trees. This
account the Governor of Virginia transmitted home to be
approved of, and as he at the same time warmly recommen-
=ded the acceptance of it, he did not doubt of its success. This
alteration caused a Corner, in this manner,  to be added
to the Colony which contains many thousand ^{as well as the new corner} acres of
land, and as a great deal of the land East of the boundary
line was not granted, Lord Dunmore and several Gentlemen
of that country determined upon petitioning the King for
some of it, and by their advice it was that my application
was made. What success Lord Dunmore's memorial met
with I cannot say, as when I saw him last, he was surprized
he had not heard from Lord Hillsborough about it, and the
way he accounted for it, was, by supposing that his representation
of the new boundary line, had arrived at the Secretary's office
at the very time when Lord Hillsborough was so very warm in
opposing the new settlement to be made on the Ohio, and that
his Lordship had neglected fixing the bounds of Virginia until
he should know the fate of the new Colony. as that matter I
conclude, is now settled, it is likely to suppose the Virginia
line will be attended to by the new secretary, and if I
shall be able to obtain my request, or even of a lesser quantity
of land in the part of the country I have mentioned, either
free of quit rent, or a remission of it for a considerable
number

number of years, I have no doubt but it would prove advantageous. The surveyors accounts are most favorable about it. Roads are already made inland and it is only 70 miles, of a flat country, to the Navigation on James River which comes into the sea. I have agreeable to your commands enclosed a copy of the memorial I sent you in April last, not with a design to give you much more trouble about it, but that the affair should not drop on account of the necessary form of offices.

I am stationed at New York for the winter, where I shall remain until April next and then join the Admiral at Boston. I am sorry to say that the greatest inconvenience I labor under, is serving with the most unpleasant Man I ever had to deal with before; it is impossible to be on any terms with him. In that my Admiral seems to be as thoroughly ill-natured as is possible for man to be, at least he is so with me, and I can attribute it to no other cause whatever than my not taking smugglers for him; However as we are to meet in the Spring I hope we shall then understand one another better.

Until Felix arrived I had not heard of W. Sloane's marriage therefore concluding him still in Prig Garden I directed some ^{wild} Turkey I sent him to your House. I also sent a few apple Trees, with the apples they bear as I think them much better than any I ever eat in England.

Col^d. Dalrymple is still at St. Vincent. The last accounts we heard was that the Governor had offered Terms to the Caribbs and given them 14 days to consider of them, and it was imagined they would be accepted. I am Dr^r in Your most faithful obliged humble servant A. L. Hammond.

Arcthusa at Rhode Island the 25th Jan^y 1779

Dear Sir

Soon after I had the honor of writing to you the beginning of last month from New York, to acknowledge the receipt of your favor by Mr. Verit, I had orders sent me to join a Squadron of three sail of ships, to give countenance to His Majestys Commission, held here for the enquiry into, and apprehending the offenders concerned in destroying the Gaspee schooner. The Commissioners, who are the chief Justices of three of the Neighbouring Provinces, together with the Judge of the Vice Admiralty Court for New England, and the Governor of this Province, formed their Court, and assembled soon after our arrival. As it is notoriously known, that the Transaction which was the subject of enquiry, had been effected, not by a mob, but by the influence of many principal People of the Colony, several of whom were themselves present, it was easy to perceive in the begining, that the Governor & the People about him betrayed visible marks of
off

apprehension; especially when they came to find the offenders were to be sent to England to be tryed; but the Court had not sat two days before the Countenances of the People wore a different aspect, as the Governor had found no difficulty to gain over two of the Judges to his Party. The first week was spent in sending Messagers backward & forward to Boston to require the Presence of Admiral Montagu, who thinking he had nothing to do in the matter, declined coming as long as he decently could, but at last complied, and furnished the Court with the Names of several People of the Town of Providence, who were present when the Drums beat up for Volunteers to make the attack; and also produced a free Mulatto man (of good sense) who declared positively to his being present at the whole affair, and swore to three of the principal people that were concerned, as also to the very man who wounded the Lieutenant. This mans evidence was confirmed by three of the Crew of the Gaspee, who swore to the seeing this mulatto fellow among the people that attacked them. This, one might reasonably imagine was ground^{sup.}

sufficient for prosecuting the enquiry, but to the great
astonishment of every Spectator here, after sitting about
three weeks, and issuing their summonses for four or five
of the People to attend, whose names the Admiral had
furnished them with, and who all excused themselves
from coming on various & frivolous pretences, The Court
has adjourned untill the 26th of May next, declaring
that nothing could be done, untill the arrival of
Lieutenant Dudingston who was the Officer that
commanded the schooner - This Sir is the manner in
which his Majesty's Commission under the Great Seal
is executed in this Country; which I now think from the
spirit that seems to rage all over New England, will
soon require Government to strike some stroke that
will convince the People here, that they mean to be
in earnest in maintaining the Authority of the mother
Country over the Colonys. The Assembly of this Province
met lately, when the Chief Justice assured the House,
that no warrant should be granted by any civil
magistrate for the purpose of apprehending any of
the

the Parties accused of high Treason: Therefore as long as they found by the weak proceedings of the Court, neither the lives or property of any body was in danger, they thought it best to suffer them to sit without interruption, but had the Judges proceeded with vigour, the Authority of the Court was to have been called in question.

The Charter of this Province is one of the strange things that were done in the Charles's reign, as by it the King has not the election of any one Officer of Government; they are all chosen annually by the People, and are consequently obliged to be subservient to their will in order to gain popularity; and altho' it is a Colony of great Trade, little or no Duties are collected; and so strange is the Constitution, that there has never been a revenue cause tried in any of their Courts, in which the Attorney General has not acted against the King: and the Lawyers have now declared against the Vice Admiralty Court having any cognizance of matters done within the mouths of Harbours; in consequence of which a Prohibition is layed on a Cargoe that lately was

was seized by the Custom House for want of Entry, and was legally condemned by the Court of Admiralty.

If the changing the mode of Government, is a matter under consideration at home, which most People here imagine to be the Case, and from what I can learn is what many wish for (particularly all the People of landed property, who are most enormously taxed, as the whole legislation is in the hands of People in Trade) there certainly never can be a better opportunity, or a pretence for doing it, than at this time; and from what I have seen, and the best opinions that I have been able to collect, it would be a Revolution easily effected; and a man of Moderation would find no great difficulty in establishing the Peace of the Country, if assisted in the beginning with a small force, to give weight to the first offices of Government.

I do not know whether Governor Hutchinson has had any new Instructions from Home, or whether his late speech to his assembly is an experiment of

of his own imagining, but this I am well assured of, that although it contains many facts, and much good reasoning, yet it has produced a very different effect than was intended, if it aimed at the Tranquility of the Country. It has renewed the Flame that was in a manner extinguished, and every little Town in New England has taken the alarm; have had Town meetings in order to instruct their Representatives, and all the Country News Papers are full of the most spirited Resolves, which breathe quite a spirit of Rebellion; so that in all probability he has cut out some new work for himself.

It is now necessary that I should make some apology to you for having taken up so much of your time on a Subject, that cannot be very interesting to you, but as a true state of the Country is only to be had from a Person on the spot, who is free from any prejudice whatever, I thought this little account of the present face of things here would give you

• truer Idea of what is passing ~~here~~ than could be collected from News Papers: and to return to the affair of the Gaspee, if Government wishes to apprehend the offenders, the Governor of the Colony must have no hand in the enquiry, as there is all the reason in the world to believe that the act was committed under his sanction & advice.

I have the honor to be with the most affectionate respect & regard

Dear Sir

your faithful & obliged
humble servant

J. Hammond

P. I. Virett is well and sends his duty to you. I hope soon to have the pleasure of hearing from you. The Packet I believe is the best conveyance (tho' not the quickest) I have not heard from Gen^l. Dalrymple since the beginning of Dec^r. He was then well and in good spirits, but in no great hope of finishing his business very soon.

I had almost forgot to tell you that I have received a letter from Colonel Brewster dated at Bombay in Dec^r. 7th. In which he lamented not being able to send the Pipe of Madeira wine he promised on account of its dearneſs & scarcity, but hoped he said, to be able to send it the next year.

Arcturusa at the Island St. John
20th August 1773

Dear Sir,

By having spent the summer in a remote part of America, I had not the honor to receive your kind letter of the 12th of April until a few days ago: I am exceedingly obliged to you for this fresh proof of your regard, and beg to assure you that I am more concerned at the trouble you have had about the memorial than at my own disappointment; however, as the matter is now gone so far, if the new plan which is to be adopted for the disposal of the Kings Lands in America, should be conceived in terms any ways advantageous, I confess I should rather wish to continue my pretensions, than to give the matter up entirely.

I fear, before this time, you have reason to suspect, that I but ill deserve the thanks you have been pleased to give me on the score of my protection to Mr. Viret; and truly forey am I that I

I have so badly succeeded in my endeavors to break him of those bad habits he had so early contracted; which I plainly see, had taken too deep a root, for any admonitions that I could give him, to be of any service. I have, indeed, to blame myself for having put too much confidence in him; but he appeared to me to have such notions of honor, that after having made me a promise, never to game whilst under my command, that I never suspected him of breaking his word; But your letter which I delivered to him, has brought on an explanation that has quite astonished me. He has been profuse & extravagant beyond any thing that could be conceived of one of his age, which he has contrived to keep from my knowledge in an extraordinary manner. I was absent from the ship for about a month, while she was at Rhode Island, and at my return, had but a bad account of his behavior, in regard to his extravagance on shore, and a rage he had shewn for play. I then took him severely to task, and he seemed so penitent, & convinced as I thought, of his bad conduct, that upon his making me a promise that he would entirely give over gaming, and that I should have no cause

cause of complaint against him, I looked over the matter, and we went on as before. I suspected that he had drawn for money, and upbraided him with so dishonorable an action, as he well knew his bills would be protested, but his answer to me then was that he had been successful at play, and had had no occasion to draw for money. He has now made a full confession to me of his whole conduct, and says that soon after the matter happened, which I have related, he got again into company, and was insensibly led into play, when his luck took a contrary turn, and being soon deeply involved, plunged himself still deeper in the hope of being able to retrieve himself, and by that means keep from me, the knowledge that he had broke his word. How he has been able to get money for his bills is to me surprising, as upon the first hint I had of his extravagance I took care to give out, that no bill of his would be answered; yet, it seems, he has found out People that chose to run the risk, and has given me a list of bills that he has drawn to the amount of £ 360. I shall write to Halifax & Rhode Island to publish the scandalous behavior of the People that supplied him with money

money, and to assure them that the bills will be protested, but little satisfaction can be expected from People that would be so base, as to assist such a boy in his prodigality.

Your kindness in forgiving his first extravagance has quite overcome him; and indeed I have not found any thing ~~the~~ praiseworthy in him, as the due sense, which he entertains and expresses of the many obligations he is under to you. He now seems to have a thorough abhorrence of his past conduct, declares he has never enjoyed a moment's peace since he has been in this predicament, allows all confidence is at end, but he says, if his oath will have any weight with me, I may depend, if I will forgive him for breaking his word with me, that I shall never have cause again to say he has forfeited it. I have therefore been prevailed upon to say, that as far as I am concerned, ^{he} has my pardon; but as this will be of no use to him without I can obtain yours, I have also said that I will plead to you in his favor. I believe, or at least I hope he is not quite incorrigible, and I submit it to you whether to one who professes to have such a sense of honor, this may not be the best method of binding him to do what is right. The opportunity I have to send this allows me only time to say that I ever am
your most faithful humble servant
I beg my good wishes to the Hoare Family. A. Hammond

Arctusa at Spithead

5th Nov^r 1773

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acquaint you of my safe arrival at this place, after a pleasant passage of 23 days from Boston. I am, as you will imagine, much rejoiced at seeing again a country I have so much affection for, but I shall not think myself quite happy until I hear of your wellfare.

I direct this, by chance, to Paulton where if I hear it finds you, I intend paying my respects to you, as soon as I shall be at liberty to leave my ship, whose destination I am at present unacquainted with.

I shall ^{say} nothing of Mr. Viret but that he is perfectly well, until I know if

2557
a letter, I had the honor of writing to you
from St. Johns Island, giving an account of
his prodigality has been received. His
behavior since, has been entirely consistent
with the promises he then made me, so
that I am not without hopes, he has a
thorough abhorrence of his past conduct,
which I am the more confirmed in by the
attention he gives to his business.

I am ever with the sincerest
affection & attachment

D^r Sir

Yours, faithfully

A. Hammond

Stouham. Nov^r 7th 1773.

My Dear Sir,

It was with the greatest pleasure imaginably, that I saw in the newspapers of this day your arrival at Portsmouth, and tho' I am not without hopes of seeing you before this reaches your hands, I would not delay a moment congratulating you upon your return. I go tomorrow to Paultown, and shall remain there till the end of the month; I hope you will make me your head quarters as much as may be in your power. I should have written to you much earlier, but I did not know how to direct, and from the intelligence I received expected you every day.

I know not, whether you are apprised that Mr Virille has drawn repeatedly bills upon me to the amount (as I recollect) of about £800, all of which except the two first, I have protested, in a late letter he confessed to me the money was lost at play; I shall not however give him up, till I know

conversed with you upon the subject, but as I am really
much displeased with him on this score, and think it
right to appear so, I desire you will when you come to me,
inform him that I will not see him, and leave him on
board till we have talked him over.

All the Family here are much yours, and desire
to be remembered to you in the kindest manner.

I am with a very Affectionate attachment,

My Dear Sir,

Your most Obedient,

and most Humble Servt

H. Stanley.

275 44

No 1773

Poultons. July 13th 1775

Dear Sir,

I am not at all surpris'd that an officer, whose merit is so well known as yours should be appointed to a command without solicitation, particularly as I suppose the Proc Buck to be destined for America, where your knowledge of the country will make your services more particularly usefull; It is with most sincere regret that I give up my own agreeable expectations of passing the remainder of the summer with you; But I must make that sacrifice as I conclude that the distinction confid upon you must finally prove advantageous to you in your profession: should circumstances bring you back into this country before your departure, you will find me here till near the end of the month; I shall at all events hope, wherever you are, to hear often from you, and if I can any way be usefull to you in matters, which you leave at home, I flatter myself you will command me without the least reserve, although my having received your letter only last night, and the hour of the post does not allow me to enlarge upon the warm sentiments of affection and attachment, with which I am, My Dear Sir,

Entirely Yours

H. Stanley

Mr Stanley July 13
1775

~~Letters from diff.~~
Correspondant

Poulton. Aug: 14th 1774.

Dear Sir,

I came back late last night from a very pleasant Tour to the Land's End, and tho' the number of letters I found here scarce give me time to thank you for the late trouble you have taken about Felix, I was unwilling to lose the chance of this reaching you at the moment.

I am exceedingly obliged to you for having settled that matter, which was so embarrassing, in a manner so highly proper; if I had had the least farther hopes of this unhappy youth's not disgracing himself and his friends in your profession, they must have arisen from his putting himself under your Patronage, but I am convinced that the step lately taken was the only one practicable to delay his utter ruin.

I shall expect you here with great impatience, and am ever

Most Affectionately Yours

P.S. I have had a very kind letter full of M. Stanley's regard for yourself from Mr. Grenville, which I will shew you when we meet.

Christⁿ Farlam
Gunⁿ of the Rainton

M^r L. Aug: 75

Rockwell at Halifax ^{15th} Nov^r 1775

Dear Sir,

It will, I am sure, give you pleasure to learn that I am not only arrived in America, but that I am also perfectly recovered from a dangerous & obstinate fever, which began the day after we parted at Yarmouth, and did not leave me until we reached the Western Islands; however, the Air & Refreshments of Fyfe (which by the bye is a delightful spot for climate, soil & fine views) together with a constitution naturally a good one, got the better of the disorder, and made the latter part of the voyage, which was tolerably short, not unpleasant to me.

I arrived here the last day of October, in order to land Commodore & Commisriner Arbuthnot who

who was my Passenger, and should have proceeded immediately for Boston; but we found this place in so defenceless a state; liable each night to be surprized by the Rebels; that it was thought necessary the RockBuck should remain here for a further security to the Kings Dock yard, until the Admirals pleasure should be known. I need not point out to you, Sir, the great importance of this Colony is of to Great Britain, as besides the immense supply of Cattle ^{Wood} & Hay it has sent to the Army at Boston, it is the only one acknowledging at present the Kings Government: therefore how necessary it is to secure it!

By our last accounts from Boston, every thing remained as General Gage had left it, or at least nothing material had happened. From all I am able to learn here, I cannot help
con

concluding that the whole conduct of the
Summer campaign has been nothing but
a scene of repeated blunders, I speak chiefly
of the Sea department. The affair of Bunker
Hill was owing to the removal of the
Somerset from Charles Town, as, whilst
she lay there, the Rebels could not take
Post on Bunker hill; and the loss we
sustained there was caused by a manifest
mistake of sending the small Vessels up
a River to the ~~right~~^{left} when they ought to have
gone to the river on the right, which would
have carried them within two hundred
yards of Charles Town Neck. The Frigates
were also wrongly placed: calculated merely
to cover the landing, and neglected proceeding
to a spot where they might have en-
filaded the Rebels behind that fatal fence
which

Pring Garden. Jan: 27th 1776

My Dear Sir,

It gave me infinite pleasure to receive from your own hand the confirmation of your Recovery, tho' I had before heard that you were out of danger: The reports about you were at one time very alarming, and I am sure I need not say how much they affected me, who considers your Society, and Friendship as one of the comforts upon which I most depend. I should have been earlier in acknowledging your letter, and congratulating you upon this occasion, if I had not waited for an opportunity of sending you some news, but I have none except what I suppose will have already reached you: The uncommon severity of the winter, which for a time interrupted all communication here, had provoked for about ten days the Departure of the Courier, who carried back the Kings consent to a treaty with the Russians, by which 12,000 of their men come into our pay, for the American Service, these are to be joined to about 9000 other Germans, and the generall computation of our strength all together will amount

35,000: I should still flatter myself, that this Army properly commanded will reestablish our affairs in the course of the next summer, but when I consider the unfortunate measures you have given me an account of, and what has lately passed in Canada, my hopes are not very sanguine. I think it highly probable, that the naval department of the war will devolve into hands highly advantageous to the public by an alteration, that will be particularly agreeable to yourself, I mean the Appointment of Lord Howe, which is very universally called for, and which seems indeed the most proper reparation for what His Lordship has but too much reason to consider as a slight offered him: Lord Sandwich recommended Sir Hugh Palgrave to succeed Sir C. Saunders as Lt General of the Marines, to which Lord North somewhat precipitately consented, upon Lord Howe expressing his displeasure at this preference, an Attempt was made to persuade Admiral Forbes to resign the Office of General to His Lordship, and to accept a pension by way of equivalent, but the offer has been positively rejected by the Admiral.

our Isle of Wight continues still to exhibit a very whimsical scene of Politics: Mr St Barrington has treated with Mr R^d Worsley, and Mr Holmes about the Borough of Newton and has resigned his seat, which is now filled by C. Worsley upon condition that his nephew should come in at the next General Election, but even this measure has not produced

a reconciliation among the Parties concerned, and neither the
Predecessor, nor the Father in Law attended the ceremony
which restored our captain to the Walls of St Stephen's.

You will be glad to hear that Mr Slown has rejoined the
Cof in his family, by the birth of another son, and that they are
all well. I wish I could give you a good account of our friend
Brewer, who mends but very slowly, and I think will want a great
deal of time, and a warmer climate to recover him.

You will join with me in regretting poor Mr Morris, the
cheerful and inoffensive companion of many an hour, we
have passed together at Roulstone, he died in a few days,
and very unexpectedly; I have likewise to lament an
humble friend in my servant John Newby.

My own adventures are little worth troubling you with: I
staid in Hampshire till near the meeting of Parliament, which
detained me in a severe attendance for two months before
Christmas, our week has been a long one, and I have had
five weeks, at Althorp, Donington, and Broadlands, where I
joyed a very sociable Party; I find my bilious complaints (which
were not a little troublesome to me last summer) entirely removed
for some time past by some rules of diet, and other little precautions,
which Dr Warren has advised, and I am upon the whole in good
health and spirits, nothing will contribute more to confirm

both the one, and the other, than to hear of your success, for notwithstanding the vulgar clamors about the indifference which people in office have for the public prosperity, I really feel an anxiety with regard to the state of our affairs ~~that~~ which seriously affects, and distresses me.

I have nothing to add, but to intreat the preference in case you have any commands in England, where you wish to employ me, and to assure you of the affectionate attachment, with which I shall ever be,

My Dear Sir,

Your most obedient, and most
Humble servant

J. Sturley

Wm. Sturley
Jan. 1776

Spring Garden. March 27th
1796

Dear Sir,

I hope you received my answer written about the latter end of the year; I have on my part been very impatient to hear from you.

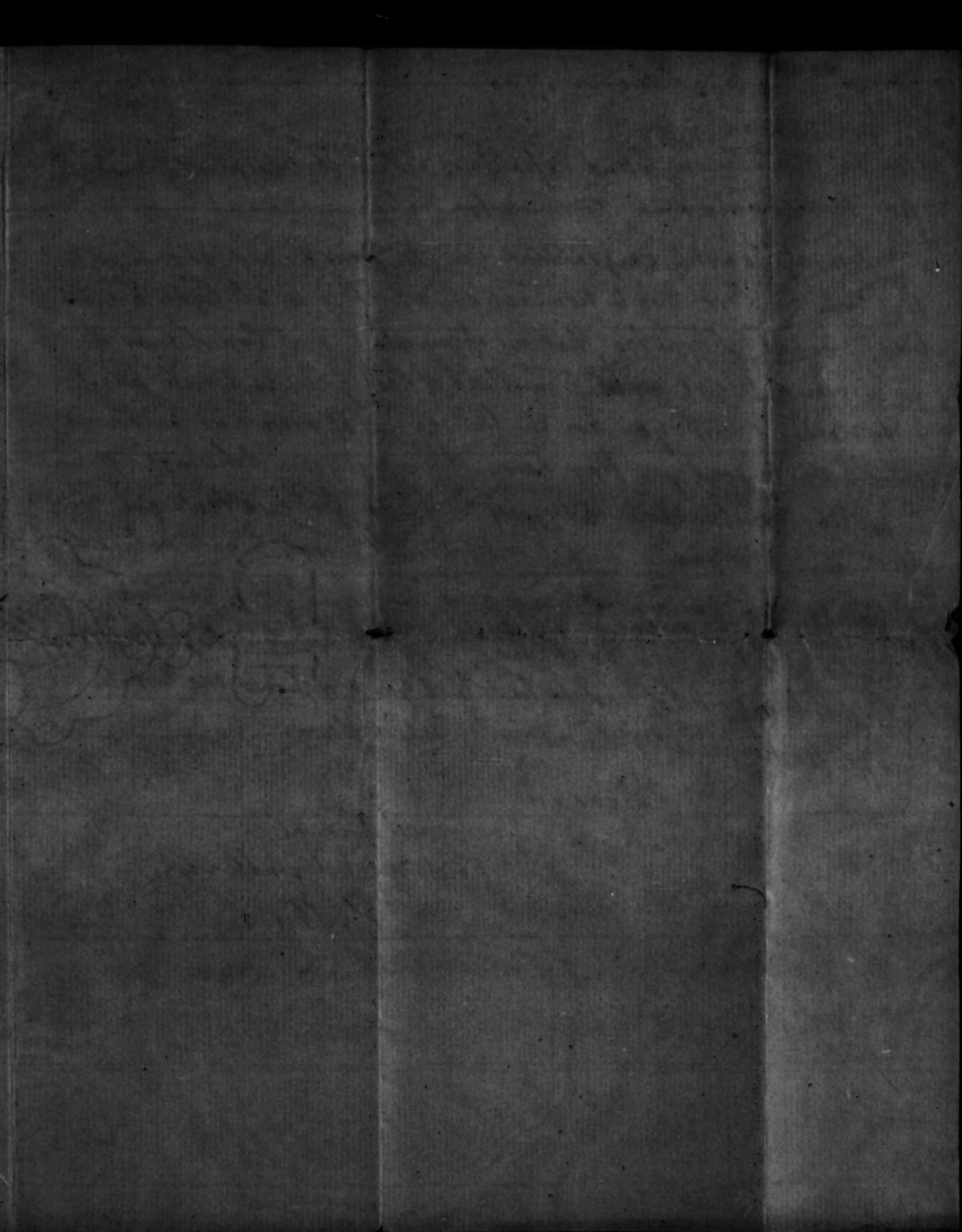
You will not be a little surprised to see again your old friend, and ship mate Elliot; he had for some time wished to return into the service, but an affair, which he had at Lausanne, and in which he acquitted himself well has brought this desire of his into effect: I shall not trouble you with details, which he will give you: I am however to make you excuse for complying with his particulars, and most earnest request of being putt under your immediate protection, I have presumed so far to listen to it, both from the full confidence, I have in your friendship, and from my own recollection, that you would have carried him with you in the Roe Buck, if he had chose it when you sailed: Upon the whole his behaviour, tho' not clear from many errors has been since you saw him, such as to give me better hopes, but not such as to relax any precautions, I would therefore wish, that you would from time to time draw upon me for his necessary expence, and he is to understand that no bills of his own will be accepted here: Col: De Brouzas allowed £120 p^r Annu:

for his maintenance, and I shall not reduce it, but would wish it
not to be exceeded — so much for Felix.

I most heartily congratulate you, My Dear Friend, as well as the
publick, on Lord Norris nomination, which is in all lights a most
happy event; I hope too that our Armaments, and Expeditions are
in a very different ^{light} from those of last year, and will have
a far other success: you are in the region of news, and we have
very little to send you from hence; there are some Articles of a private
kind very melancholy to myself; we have lost in a fortnight Mr
St Andrew, Dr Hoadley, and Mrs Norris, all persons highly valued by me.
The rest of your friends I think continue well. When you have leisure
I beg to hear from you, as it allways will be highly satisfactory to me
to know how you do, and to find that you sometimes recollect the
very affectionate attachment, with which I am,

Dear Sir,

Yours most Obedient,
and most Humble Servant
H. Stanley



27 March 1776

Southampton N. H. April 28th

My Dear Hannah

1776

You cannot conceive what satisfaction
your letter gave, which I received this day, not only to all
of this family, but to numbers of your friends to whom I
gave the agreeable information of your being in a good
state of health, and that you were in as good a state of
spirits. I took the liberty, as I found many inquiries made
= as respecting the political state of Virginia in view of
communicating the contents to Mr George Germaine, who
thanked me much for my having given him some hints
and informed other facts which had come to his knowledge
from other quarters, but which had no such solid proofs
to corroborate them, as those contained in your paper to me. I
hope you will forgive me for so doing, as the letter was then
so interesting, and I really thought so important. —

I wish I knew where to begin my narrative to you, but
as Hampshire ought to take the lead, I am sorry upon this
first occasion of writing to you, to communicate so much

unpleasant information from that Quarter. — Morris Punter of
Kussaling died about the 1st of January, leaving about £1,500
to educate, and rear, and portion out his family which you
know is not the smallest in the family. — His illness was
short, and was a sudden, total decay. —

St. Anne's who had stood so many hard winters, and laughed
at many a storm, and not however overcome the unusual
violence, and severity of the one which is so lately over, but
has fallen a sacrifice to it in a fit of the Gout after a
fortnight's unparliamentary; Thirteen Blisters could not subdue
this fit, as they frequently had done before, and he is dead
at the age of 92.

Chancellor Hardley did not survive him many hours, and
is dead likewise.

Mrs. Norris died about the same period. Her son is
supposed not to get any thing by her death. He having told
her, as report says, a few days before she died, that he was
heartily sorry to see her in her deplorable condition, for that

He had no more to wish but death. Having long since sold his reason at his disease, in order that he should have no temptation whatever to wish, or desire it.

As to Mr Bruce, about whom you wish to have an account, I wish it was in my power to give you the least flattering hopes of him. He suffered most cruelly by the winter, and had an Inflammation break within him about six weeks past, this brought him almost to his grave, but notwithstanding all this, as he stands sworn in the Military service at Bombay, he has set off for that place about a week past, in the same ship with General Carmichael, appointed lately Governor thereof, and I am satisfied from what I saw of him a very few days earlier before he left town, and from the accounts of his situation when at Portsmouth, that he is by this time so much recovered from the disease, and fresh up of his disposition was extremely communicative to persons with whom he happened was to lodge, of any circumstances about his health, and as I have seen a Doctor at whose house he lodged lately, since he has left London. I found by him that his impatience to quit England, and to go to India, arises from a most determined

resolution he had taken not to meet his Wife here, whom
he daily expected to arrive in England from Bombay, to
whose acts, and behaviour, I believe, he begins now to be
sensible, he is to owe all his ill health, and those
marvellous anxieties, and distresses he has for some years past
been a constant prey to, and to which, in all human proba-
-bility he has fallen a sacrifice. — The woman at whose
house he lodged informed me, he has left her in his will, just
what he got by her, and nothing more. — One more melancholy
story, and then no more. — Old Earl Derby dies, Lady
Derby was so struck, that she dies in two days after the Peer, one
of the Daughters who had been sometime indisposed, was so shocked
at leaving both their deaths, that she died likewise. The Old
Peer never forgiving G.^o Bugeyne for running away with his
Daughter, leaves Lady Charlotte nothing, but leaves all the rest
of the Old Peers his Daughters 25,000, a Piece; & 1 one
of them died so suddenly after the Peers death, as not to have
time to make a Will. Bugeyne comes in for a fifth, as an
Heir general, and will by this odd circumstance get 5,000 £.

The Lords will laugh, so they called the Old Peer, & his
Lady — Derby & Jane

In order to make up a little for all these losses, I have the pleasure to acquaint you that Mr. Sloane has procured another Boy, which is, thank God, most perfectly in a thriving way.

Were you to believe American accounts you would suppose that London was desolated, and that the State in general was a most gloomy appearance, whereas the contrary is really the Truth, I now remember a most gay winter, and as to the new Streets begun at the back of Mr. Foley's House by Candlish St. which are nearly quite completed, so many are remembered so many, and such Handsome ones built. The Trade is so universally good to every other country in Europe, but to the rebellious Colonies, that Wool is 10 P. Cent dearer than the last year; and in order to give you one Hint to pass the Interior state of this country to be more richer than it ever was, the Lady day Quarter of the Revenue, arising by the Customs made up to the 5th day of this Month, is 24,000 higher than it was last year, (the highest Year ever known), and the Excise 61,000 higher, that is the two above 80,000 higher, than in the Lady day quarter 1775. - But yet for one, I heartily wish for a reconciliation, and most astonishing it is to me, that the great

American Proprietors, will see the risk of other ruin, when they might have so cheap an Establishment, and so easy a Constitution as Lord North's Plan, and proposition would give them, I am sure the One of 27 Sept. 1775. - And if they should continue to be in a few years, Independently I will be assured that that state of Independence will not cost them annually Ten times as much as the Parliament here, even should they should raise for the general defence, the whole of which would in all human probability be applied to Army purposes.

I saw, Mr. Doyle, this day in the House of Commons, and having acquainted him, that I was writing to you he has desired me to convey to you his very sincere & hearty thanks for your offering of your House at Freshwater, but that he has actually taken a House at E. Bourne for a term of years, And is just going to make some additions to it, & that being so engaged, he is under the necessity of declining accepting your kind offer to him. He purposed writing to you in some short time. Both himself & Mr. Doyle are in very good health.

We shall expect to hear of you all being alive & alert
in America this Year, 7,000 Africans arrived at Spitham
Yesterday, the Guards embark at that place this day, and the whole
of this detachment will sail in a few days, If not in a
few Hours.

I learnt much upon reading your letter to find that the
3,000 Men under Lord Cornwallis, met with so many disappointments
from the Storms they met with, as to have totally frustrated
the expedition which was intended to take place under G.^c
Clinton, as I can clearly prove that had they landed either
at the Sp^t where Norfolk did stand, or in N. Carolina,
a great, and immediate Impression might have thereby been
effected, and probably a great party would have stepped forward
in support of Order, and Government, so much to be wanted, &
hitherto so difficult to be found there, or any where Else, in
all the Continent.

I have received more than one letter from Holmes, pressing
me to recommend in the Strongest manner, a Mr. Christian who
is a Lieutenant in the Army, and married a near relation of Mr.
Holmes, to you, which I have taken the liberty of doing
not only by this short paragraph, but by a letter I have since

to deliver to you.

Vicot after having voted his heels a very little in his
father's native country of Switzerland, and as I understand
had the pleasure of a Duel on his hands likewise, is returned
to this country again, has made his peace so far with
our friends, that he is returning in a Man of War to
the American Station, where possibly you may see him. He is
full as lively, I am informed as he has ever been, my friend
William saw him a few days past at Southampton after he
had galloped on Horse most furiously from Gosport to that
place, he took Mr. Langford however almost instantly back
to Portsmouth with him in a Chaise, and Home, attending
the intricacies of Progress the Innkeeper, who assured him that
a Pau would most amply answer every purpose of his journey.
All this to yourself, as the gentleman may wish to let
Day, light into me, who wish to keep my Bowells as dark
as in house I can possibly do.

We have had lately a most noble exhibition in this
town in the Trial of the Dutches, of Kingston, which lasted
seven days, she is found guilty of Bigamy, & is therefore
no longer a Dutches, but Mrs. Bristols wife. The suit

was intended by Mr. [unclear], I believe entirely upon a
supposition that to avoid the duty, her Grace might be
disposed to come down here, as a Dutchess might, for
as to the real estate it is left to the young lady by
the Duke's Will. However nothing of this kind has
happened, she has suffered no small damage, &
what may be the issue of Earl Bristol finding himself
against the Husband of Miss Chasely, I know not, If he
can procure a divorce, she will in another ^{year} be brought
very low indeed in point of title, and rank, for as to
any thing but her Income as Dutchess of Kingston, I
fancy, as poor as she can take away the real estate
from her during her life. Her Income being £4,000 £
per annum will not much affect her comfortable situation, as
the real estate is now £20,000 £ per annum.

There has been great this year in St. James's the
most magnificent Masque Club that was ever seen.

England, as I believe any where else, the noble arrange-
ment of the several apartments calculated for different
purposes so well adapted, and so judiciously furnished,
that I am myself much pleased with being a member of
it. The magnificence of the Building, has inspired
these members who were play, to extend their spirit,
beyond the bounds of common conception for it has
been so frequent circumstance for an individual to
win, or lose for 20, or 30, thousands in a Week or
Ten days. That very house after subsisting at
least six Weeks is an building, and Play at this
Club, is like Play at any other.

I have sent you some measure of this winter,
which has been rather opposed to, the it is not
so brilliant as former years have produced, it will
however entertain you, which is my real object in
sending it to you. And I shall not fail, soon I

have had to be sure of conveying any intelligence to
you, of doing so, when I have sketched some rough
to fill a letter with.

We are all Africans at Spitham, another, and the
last detachment is daily expected, so that our strength
will be near 60,000, then 100,000 Men in America.
and I most heartily wish their success. Let me
have a line from you, If any thing happens worth
transmitting either of Military, or other American
matters, and you shall hear from me of what is moving
here.

By the Paper, The East Indies is in full as
distracted a state, as any part of the Empire. The
Japanese Council so mortally divided, the three
Gentlemen who went from hence, against the two
remain there to be of it, that Clive, and Bland
have fought a duel, in consequence of some ambiguous
disputes actually arising in the Chamber of Council.

rather more part.

Munroe an East Indian who has been in all the Courts, and in all the plots of most of our East India Governors has been actually tried by the new Court of Justice, & Hanged for a felony, which had been committed eleven years past, and that case is capital before our late Court of Justice sent thither. In short all is there in a most furious Section, I wish that the Court of Justice may not be kept in it. Munroe offered so little than two thousand thousand pounds for his life. This seems an extraordinary sum, but he was rich enough to have easily paid it.

All here, my good Friend desire thee best regards to you, and believe me with great faith, & regards
Thine Friend

The letter has just produced
another Quake.

My Friend has been here this day or tomorrow I believe at furthest. April 24th so that he will soon be in his former - Antonio's Indian desire thee best regards
Thine Friend

Priory Garden. April 29th 1796.

My Dear Sir,

It is a considerable time since I had the pleasure of hearing from you, but I have in that interval had the satisfaction of receiving a good account of your health, by your other Correspondents, I have likewise troubled you with two letters, one early in this year, the other very lately by Viret, who, I suppose will have joyed you; before this reaches you, I am afraid I have a good deal trespassed upon your patience, I intended to send the Roebuck, but I remembered that you were not willing to take him when you sailed from England, and besides I considered this measure as the only one, which could prevent his total, and immediate ruin. I think I have told you, that his behaviour at Lunenburg had been better than I expected, I cannot say it continued such at Paris in his return, or then after his arrival, I shall not trouble you with particulars, but his absurd extravagance has led him to procure supplies by very unjustifiable means, such as offering bills he knows, will not be accepted, and buying goods to sell them again: His bad habits continue, and he has added one to the catalogue, which

Yours &c

I think, I have heard, he was formerly exempt from, I mean
the Love of low company; he don't extremely hard when he
was in the Isle of Knight with people of that Class, and often by
himself, to which I am sorry to add, that I have perceived in
him very little regard to truth; I hope however his professions of Attach-
ment to you are an exception, this is one of the few good sentiments, which
I still flatter myself he may retain: I am afraid, he will require a
great deal of attention on your part to reclaim him, and however un-
pleasant the gentleness of your temper may render it, you will perhaps
find it necessary to restrain him strictly; particularly if he should
resort again to his former methods of procuring money, when in Port,
for which I see no other remedy, than confinement — Upon the whole,
my present attempt is the last I shall ever make to save him, as he will
soon be of age, my connexion with him will be ended if your Authority,
and example cannot reform him, and I shall thence forward consider
him as an absolute stranger to me, and then I leave this disagreeable
Subject.

Your Letter to Mrs Sloane has been shown to Lord George Gormayne,
who thinks both of the sense and style of it, as every other good judge must do;
I find that it contained some facts not generally known here, and of
which the Intelligence may be very useful: Our Eyes are all turned your
way, and the old world seems to be pouring itself into the new, but whether
fast enough to have the due effect, I cannot pretend to determine; I
think the Affairs of sending our foreign Auxiliaries has been negoti-
ated with address, and dispatch, but I am afraid the Embarkation of
some part of them has gone on more slowly than one would wish; the

Truth is, that this has proved a most arduous task. I ought not to omit mentioning, that upon some applications for my friends, I have met with very cordial marks of regard from Lord Howe, I am persuaded, I owe them greatly to your Friendship, and you will add to the many marks, I have already received of it, by expressing to His Lordship how gratefully I have received them. Col. Dalrymple set out this morning to embark for Boston, he is in good health, but I think very much, and with very sufficient reason chagrined at the disappointments he has met with.

Col. Thornton is arrived here from the C. Indies, where he has not been more successful as to his private fortune; except the open contraband in actual arms, which you are engaged in, there cannot exist a more violent state, than that he has left fireworking there, I think it will end in the recall of Ker, and Barrwell; perhaps that of the Judges likewise, who have sided with them in a most partial, and outrageous manner, but I am sorry to observe more procrastination, and delay than I could have wished in deciding upon these matters.

I conclude that the News papers reach you in America, and therefore shall not fill my letter, with such intelligence as you will learn from them; I think that upon the whole this country remains very much united in a firm resolution to try out to the utmost the Dispute with the Colonies, and that we have been (which is not usually the case,) very patient under a variety of disappointments, owing to want both of proper information, and of Conduct.

As I have now been a long time without visiting my friends on the Continent, and think those connexions, which have been so agreeable to me must drop by degrees if they are not cultivated, I propose setting out the latter end of next month on a tour thro' Part of France, which I have not yet seen; Mr. Senhinson has made this Party with me: We go by Paris, Bourdeaux, Ghoulouse, Niemes &c. to Geneva and Lausanne, from whence thro' Burgundy we shall return to the Capital, and so home by Spa, and Brupells: This will engage me till the season allows of a little Har hunting in the Isle of Wight, and I shall end the year at Paultons. I most heartily wish, that the State of Affairs had been such, as to allow you to have partaken of my schemes, and can most sincerely assure you, that I daily miss, and regret your society; It must however be my comfort, that you are absent in order to acquire honor, and future advancement in your profession; I respect both your present occupations, and the little leisure you have, too much to wish to intrude upon you, but your letters will always be most welcome to me, and will be punctually convey'd to my hands. Adieu! my Dear Sir, and believe me to be ever with the most affectionate attachment,

Yours very faithfully
and Obedient humble Servt
H. Stanley

Rockwell in Virginia th 5 Aug: 1776 ^{sh}

Dear Sir,

you hear seldom from me for want
of opportunity, to write to you, and because
I have nothing material to acquaint you with.
The history of a defensive kind of war, which
has been my misfortune for some time past
to have been engaged in, is painful for me
to relate, and would give you no pleasure
to read. In short, the support & protection
that I have been under the absolute necessity
of giving to Lord Dunmore & his floating
Town, consisting of a Fleet of upwards of 90
Sail, destitute of almost every material to
Navigate them, as well as seamen, has given
full

full employment for three Ships, for these
three month past, to prevent them from falling
into the hands of the Enemy; and had we to deal
with People the least enterprising, we should not
have been able to have done it so long. However
this inconvenience is now nearly at an end,
as I am sending all that is able & in a condition
to go to Sea to S^t. Augustine, after having destroyed
about twenty sail, and put the people that
inhabited ^{em} into other Vessels. we shall then
be much more at liberty to act offensively
against the Enemy than we hitherto have been,
which if we had a sufficient force to do
might be done to great advantage, as on account
of the navigable Rivers of this Country, there
is no part of the continent where ships can
assist land operations more than in this. But
unfortunately my Lord Dunmore's Troops have

been so few in number, such a motley set,
and so full of disease, that it has been
totally impossible to do or attempt any thing
of consequence; and our whole exploits have
amounted to nothing more than burning &
destroying Houses on the Banks of the River,
and taking the Cattle off the Farms; which
decides nothing. Whenever a Thousand men
can be spared, properly equipt, for the service
of this Colony, with eight or 10 sail of small
ships to act with them, they may dispossess
the Colony of Maryland & Virginia to the
greatest degree, and employ more than ten
times their numbers to watch them.

I say nothing to you about what is going
on at head Quarters, as from a want of small
vessels for Packets, our communication and
correspondence with each other is less frequent
than you can possibly imagine. I hope that
defect will be supplied us from home, as we
cannot

cannot here get proper Vessels, and if we could, we should want both Guns & Men for them; and without them we shall never be able to stop the kind of Trade the Rebels mean to carry on during the winter, which is to be done in fast sailing Pilot Boats, and carried on from the small inlets on the Coast, where our Ships will not be able to get near them; and to confess the truth, I am clearly of opinion that unless we can withhold the foreign supplies from getting into the Country, this is likely to be a very tedious war. The Troops in these two Colonies have scarcely a second shirt, and their Coats are already in Rags, so that they will certainly feel great distress next winter. They however talk largely of resources within themselves, but, upon my word, from the best authority I can get, the fact is much other ways.

I have the pleasure to tell you that
since

since the Congress have declared themselves
independant states, there is a spirit of loyalty
broke out in the lower Counties of the Delaware
and on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, which
properly managed & cultivated may turn to a
very good account. It seems they have long
had divisions among them on religious
accounts, and the Churchmen are clearly
of opinion that it is the Presbyterians that
have brought about this revolt, and aim at
getting the government of America into their
hands, which they (the Churchmen) are rather
determined to die than submit to. These
Friends are numerous, and inhabit a Country
that forms a Peninsula, by the Chesapeake
Bay on one side and the R. Delaware on the
other, which from water to water is only about
twelve miles. whenever an attack is made upon

Phil^{ca}

Philadelphia, which I hope will not long be delayed, these People declare they will assist; and want only arms & ammunition (which the other party have by degrees got from them) to do it by themselves.

In the beginning of the year I sent to Admiral Shuldham to ask for ^{such} a force to be sent to me, that would authorize me to make an attempt to clear the passage of the Delaware and an attack upon the Town, which at that time was very defenceless. By unfortunate ~~and~~ ^{unavoidable} delays, it was the end of April before I received his answer. He agreed with me, he said, in every article of my request, but from the distress of the Army, which had obliged them to evacuate Boston, no Troops could be sent to assist me, nor was there a colhorn or Howitzer in store. Upon this, I gave up all thoughts, as you may conclude, of attacking

so formidable a pass; but being desirous
of reconnoitering the River, and seeing a little
what the thing was, to enable me the better
to proceed when a force should arrive, I took
the Liverpool with me and sailed up the
River within a few miles of their Chevaux
de frizes, as they call them, which are immense
frames of thick wood, junk with Ballast
in a narrow part of the River, defended
by batteries on each side, and a floating
one in the middle; together with 13 Row
Galleys, each carrying one Gun, from a thirty
two pounder, to an eighteen pounder, and from
seventy to fifty men.

As soon as the Enemy perceived that
we had stoped, and were busily employed
in filling our empty water Casks, they sent
all the armed craft down to attack us,
and brought with them a Viper fitted as a
fire ship for the purpose of destroying us.

we met them under sail (as the Tide ran too rapid to ride with a spring upon the Cable) and lay under the disadvantage of being obliged to engage them ^{at} the distance they chose to fix on, which was scarcely within point blank shot: and being such low objects on the water, it was with some difficulty that we could strike them; so that we fired upon them near two hours before they thought proper to retire & row off.

unfortunately at this juncture the Rockbeck grounded and being high water, could not be got off 'till 4 the next morning; but as it was soft mud, the ship did not receive the least damage.

It was then so thick a fog, that nothing could be discerned 'till about 8 o'clock, when it cleared up, and we perceived the Gallies at anchor about 3 miles above us. The wind had changed and now blew up the River, and we pursued them immediately with all our sails; and they as industriously avoided us by plying their oars & sails. This chase lasted only about two hours, when it fell so little wind, that we were not able to stem the tide of ebb, and not having six inches water more than the ship drew in the best of the Channel (which was not above

above a quarter of a mile wide, though the River from bank to bank was above a mile & half) I was under the necessity of anchoring.

The Gallies rowed to a point of land on the western shore & anchored also.

When I found there was no prospect of bringing them to a close engagement, but that they meant to retire as I advanced, and not having a force sufficient with me to make an attack upon the chevaux de frise, I found it would answer no good purpose to go further up the River, which every mile made more intricate; but that it was best to try if we could draw the Gallies down to a wider part of the River, where we should be in less danger of getting aground, where we could run near them and have a better chance for destroying them. Accordingly when the ebb tide made, about 5 in the afternoon, we got under way and turned down the River with an easy sail; The Gallies with their former attendants, increased by several large Launches, with each a cannon in their bow, immediately followed us, and kept up a

a smart fire, but cautiously remained at their usual distance. This gave me great hopes, I should be able to draw them into a wide part of the River, but about 10 at Night they thought proper to stop near New Castle; when I found I could not get them any further I anchored also for the Night, intending to pursue them again at day light, which when I attempted to do, they run again up the River: at least those that we saw did, which was only 11 sail; the rest I conclude were disabled: but have never to this hour been able to get an exact account of what they suffered.

after waiting in their Neighbourhood three days, finding there was no prospect of getting them down, and having fully executed all I had in View in going up the River, and entirely repaired the very little damage they did us, I came down the River, and finding letters from the Admiral acquainting me that Sir Peter Parker was gone to the Attack Charles Town; I immediately intended sailing to join him, thinking the Roebuck could be of more use there than to remain cruising off the Delaware. However in this I was disappointed

disappointed for when I came off the Cape of Virginia, I received such an account of Lord Dunmore's situation, as obliged me to look in upon him, when I found I had just arrived in time to save him out of the hands of the Rebels.

Before this letter reaches you I conclude you will have heard of the ill success of that unfortunate expedition; on which I shall make no comments, but least you may have heard the story imperfectly send you the General's letter. These little misadventures I trust will have a good effect in the end. English men always rally when things are at the worst, and I have not the least doubt but our affairs at the end of the Campaign will wear a better aspect than they do at present. One thing I must own astonishes me, which is the astonishing delay the Troops have made in getting out here. They arrive now in the very worst season. The heat of these two months is more than an Inhabitant of the northern parts of the world can endure, and an army acting here should

should go into Summer quarters, as well as winter ones.

The letter you did me the honor to write to me in January, came to me about two months ago, and made me extremely happy; as I ever shall be to hear of your health & welfare, events that I can never be indifferent about, while I have breath to draw.

The vessel that carry this is now getting under sail therefore am under the necessity of concluding it. Pray give my kindest love to Mr. Sloane & his family Don & Anne & all friends.

I always am my Dear with the sincerest attachment, & most sense of your kind rep. to me.

Your faithful humble servant

Tell Mr. Holmes, if you please, that I will answer his letter by the very first opportunity.

A. J. Hammond

Rockwell, at New York, 24th Sep^r 1776

Dear Sir,

I was made exceedingly happy by the last mark of your kindness to me, conveyed by the hands of my old shipmate Felix, who I rejoiced to see return again into the service, especially as he informed me he came with a thorough resolution, to use his utmost endeavors to fetch up his lost time by a double diligence & attention to his duty: and for these five or six weeks that he has been with me (during which time the ship has been in constant employment) I have the pleasure to tell you, that he has in no instance

neglected any opportunity of putting himself forward.

As soon as I heard from Sir Peter Parker & General Clinton of their being unsuccessful in South Carolina, and that instead of joining us at Virginia as I had all along been taught to expect, ^{they had sailed for New York,} and being myself most heartily tired of carrying on a sort of Piratical war, that tended in no degree to benefit his Majesty's service, I consulted with Lord Dunmore, and found his Lordship equally desirous of quitting a situation that was every day growing more & more distressing; we therefore disposed of our Floating Town in the best manner we could, by sending them to places of security, and with the few Troops we had left, set sail for New York, where we arrived just as the operations against the place were beginning.

I need not tell you My Dear Sir, the pleasure I received in finding my friend Lord Howe

entrusted with the conduct of the American
business (the most important perhaps that
Great Britain ever was concerned in) because
I know his abilities for carrying on a war,
are not to be excelled; and am perfectly
convinced, that nothing but success in ^{the} war,
and reducing the Americans to the utmost
extremity, will ever bring about a Peace or
reconciliation, in terms the least honorable
for Great Britain. It has long been too late
for Negotiation, yet it is easy to be perceived,
My Lord Howe came out with a different
Idea; but I trust what has happened this
last week will convince him of the total
impossibility of it.

You will, no doubt, have heard of the letter
Lord Howe wrote to Doctor Franklin on his
arrival, and of the insolent & laughy answer
he received. Since the Battle upon Long Island
General Sullivan one of the Prisoners, went

upon

went upon his Parole to Philadelphia, where
he moved the Congress to send Commissioners to
treat with his Lordship, which they consented
to, and a time & place for their meeting was
appointed; to which my Lord went, and found
the three deputies that were sent to him
were, D^r. Franklyn, Adams & Rutledge of
S^c Carolina. as there were three of the most
violent Men in the whole Congress, it was not
difficult to determine that the meeting would
not be a long one, which indeed was so that
that his Lordship reached his Ship again the
same Evening, altho' the place he went to was
near 20 Miles off. But of this meeting I conclude
Mr. Doyley will have a ^{more} particular account
from Mr. Stretcher, with a copy of the Declaration.

I shall not enter into a minute detail
of the operations of the Army & Fleet, as I
understand from Colonel Dalrymple that he
writes

writes to you particularly on that subject:
from which you will understand them in=
-finitely better than I could describe it; I shall
only say, that after the Enemy abandoned
Long Island they immediately saw the Town
of New York was not tenable; they therefore
lost no time in clearing it of all the most
valuable effects & most of the artillery; but
still kept possession of it, as well as
a very considerable work, called Bunker
Hill, immediately at the back of it, and ^{had} a very
large body of men in the neighbourhood.
our Army took their Post opposite to
Hell Gate, and Batteries were erected and
feints were made to show the Enemy
that we intended landing there. However
nothing was done until the 15 Instant,
when General Howe landed with about

about twelve thousand five hundred men
at Kips's bay, a place about 3 Miles^{or}
above the Town on the East River, under
cover of the Fire of several of the Ships
of war, without the least opposition. Not-
withstanding a deep entrenchment had been
made by the Enemy on every accessible
part of the Coast of the Island of New York,
which they manned at the place, opposite
to where our Troops were in motion, the
Ships no sooner began to fire than they im-
mediately deserted their lines and took to
their heels. This seemed to be a signal for
those quartered in the Town & the Neighbour-
hood; as they all did the same, and never
stopped until they got into their works
at Kingsbridge: where they at present
remain. We have also taken possession of
Paulus Hook, which is the point on the West Side

of Hudson River which The Enemy had very strongly fortified, where they kept a large Garrison, and where they behaved exactly as they had done at every other place where the ships had been carried to.

From what I have said, you will conceive that we shall have no difficulty in driving the Enemy from the Sea Coast, which indeed they don't scruple to say that they will give up to you, knowing that the more preparations you have the weaker you will ~~be~~^{be} in the field: and they seem to place their entire dependance on their being able to hold out longer than we can: their emissaries in England having assured them that the present armament is the utmost efforts of Great Britain for one year, and cannot possibly be continued a second which gives them great confidence.

It is most certain that a war was never

carried on upon more unequal terms; while
we are treating them with openness & generosity,
They are daily practising every kind of art
treachery & cruelty to destroy us. They gave
us up the Town quietly, and as soon as
they imagined, the People that had been
driven out of it ^{by them}, had again got settled in
their Houses, and that a number of our
Stores were got on shore, they took the op-
portunity of a windy dark night, and set
the Town on fire in many different places,
by people that they had concealed in certain
Houses for that purpose, with all kinds
of combustibles prepared. The fire broke out
about one o'clock in the morning, when boats
were immediately sent with men & Engines
and by great labor it was extinguished
about 10 the next morning with the loss
of about a quarter part of the Town: so that
we have still a large one left. Several People

People were detected in the very act of setting fire to the Houses, and others were taken with large bundles of matches ready for the purpose. Some were hanged & burnt on the spot where they were found, and there are still a great many remains for punishment. This happened a few nights ago, and every day since there has been the strictest search made, and they are continually finding more combustibles, so that I by no means think the Town is yet safe.

We are at present perfectly quiet, and as we are making a line of works from River to River across the Island about 6 or 7 miles beyond the Town, which cannot be finished in less than 10 days or a fortnight, it is natural to conclude no Attack will be made on the Rebel Army until the arrival of the last division of the Hepians, which we hourly expect to see. The Enemy has taught

us how to deal with them; which is to get behind them, and show them that their retreat is in danger and they never will make any stand: I hope we shall never attack them any other way, unless we should, by accident get them into the open fields.

The Fleet & army are in great spirits and tolerable good health, and for the present live exceedingly well: but the ships are ill man'd & very short. You can have no idea of the number of men it takes, to attend upon such an army as this, is; with the ships we have here (which is two thirds of those employed in America) when all the Flat Boats, Gallies, Gondolas, Mule Stages, &c. are man'd, there is scarce men enough left on board many of the ships to move them: so that we really want six or eight line of Battle ships; not so much perhaps for the use of the ships, as for their crews

Complements of Men for the purposes before
mentioned. I have always been of opinion
that the principal means of putting an end
to the war was to put an entire stop to
the trade of America, which was only
to be done by having a great number
of cruizers, and a constant succession
of clean ships. unfortunately this expedition
against New York has necessarily required
the attention of so many ships, that all
the Southern Ports are now left open, and
there is no doubt but they will embrace
this opportunity to send away their
Tobacco and Grain. The Merchants in
the French & dutch West India Islands
tell the Merch^{ts} at Philadelphia (many of
which letters I have intercepted) that if
they will send them very small fast sailing
Pilot boats, they can supply them amply
with Powder arms & cloathing at very little
risk, but as they have no money to send in

in return, and these Vessels will not convey
the bulky commodities of America, they
cannot devise any mode for remittances
to be made, and unless that can be done
the trade must drop of course. Therefore
the necessity of shutting up the Port is obvious
and the small inlet is not of so much
consequence as one at first would imagine.

Don't be too sanguine my Dr. Friend
about ^{the extent of} the present campaign. If we can drive
the Enemy from Kingsbridge, secure this
Port as an establishment, and take possession
of Rhode Island, for a winter Harbour for
our ships, it will perhaps be as much
as will be done: and by taking the Field
early next Spring, and joining the army in
Canada we shall be strong enough to pursue
vigorously any plan that may be adopted.
I have taken the liberty to mention my
Friends in the lower Counties of the Delaware
and eastern shore of Maryland; as people

worth cultivating, but have been told
all that must be a future consideration.
However I am still of opinion that Philadelphia
is an object of the first consequence to us.

I received the letter you wrote to
me concerning Lieut. Boyce of the 14th Reg^t.
whom I before had the pleasure to be
acquainted with, and who I have
always been glad to see any civilities to
in my power, which Mr. Worsley
might assure himself I should on his acc^t.
have a great pleasure in doing.

I was heartily concerned for the loss of
you Mr. Norris & Mr. S^r. Andre, they will
cause a blank in the Society of Southamptⁿ
that will not easily be filled up.

That a speedy, & honorable termination
may be put to this war, and that I shall
have the pleasure soon again of enjoying the
thing in the world I am most ambitious of,

your Friendship & kindness, in the earnest
wish & desire of

Dear Sir

Your most affectionate
& faithful humble servant

A. Hamond

P.S. I have mentioned Felix
in the strongest terms to My Lord Howe.
and his Lordship told me he would
certainly remember him: yet I don't
think it would be amiss if you
would write to his Lordship about
him. or if Mr. D'yley would write
about him, I am sure it would forward it.
His Lordship passed most of the day with
me yesterday, and told me he will give
Mr D'yleys Nephew (who is with me)
a Lieutenancy the first vacancy that
happens.

I beg to trouble you with my love to Mr Sloane
& his Family, and to give my service to all my
other Friends. Pray thank Mr. Lenthins on for his letter
and tell him I will write to him by the next Packet

if there is any thing transpires that is worth
communicating.

I hope I need not say the joy I felt at learning
your health was again so well established. ~~also~~
although I have had some severe attacks since
I have been out, yet I have the pleasure to
tell you I find myself at present perfectly
well.

Letter from Captain
Andrew S. Hammond to
The Rt. Hon^{ble} Hans Stanley
Gov^r of the Isles of Wight.

Staple. Oct 18th 1796.

Dear Sir,

You need never make the least Apology to me, when either the busy scene you are engaged in, or the want of conveyance delays the satisfaction your Letters always give me: In such cases, I have too firm a dependance on your friendship to imagine myself absent from your thoughts, and I am sure, you are employ'd to your own honor, and advantage: I shall not however pretend to be quite so abstracted, as to disown, that when both leisure, and convenience serve your Letters are always, both as coming from you, as well as from the manner, and the matter highly agreeable to me; I should have somewhat farther entitl'd myself to them by an earlier answer, but I happened to be abroad; when your last reached England, and I thought it not improbable, that I might hear from you again upon Felix having join'd you; As I have reason to think his fame encreases, tho' I cannot flatter myself it improves, you will have learnt his latest adventures from the Captain who is to have convey'd him to you; I am sensibly how much I have trespass'd in this instance upon your kindness, but, tho' I have very little hopes of his ever becoming a tolerable member of your profession, my duty and regard to his very worthy father binds me to take the best care in my

power to prevent his incurring some signal misfortune, or public disgrace, which I conceive can be effected only by a restraint impracticable in this country except on ship board, and I am sure in your hands attended with every alleviating circumstance, which he is capable of not abusing so much for this wretched unhappy boy.

I left England on the 20th of May, and did not return till the middle of September; Mr Senhinson was my companion in this Tour, which proved a very agreeable one; after three weeks spent at Paris, we stayed ten days with the D. De Choiseul at Chanteloup, proceeded thence to Bourdeaux, to the Gironde, and Languedoc, along the Coast of the Mediterranean up the Rhone to Lyons, from thence homewards thro' Switzerland, and Lorraine to Luxemburg and Spa, where we met, with a very good Society, and great benefit from the Waters. The Bounds of my Letter do not admit of my sending you a Journal, and therefore I shall content myself with saying that we had in generall good weather, and fine roads, and that we not only saw a very noble country, but stopped in the severall places, that deserved it long enough ^{as only} to view the principal curiosities in towns, but many principal seats, which I had not in former journey: made an object of my researches: I shall detain you for a word longer at Brupelles, because I know'd the De Staremberg, with whom I passed five days, and who received me with their usual cordiality, have desired me to remember them to you with every expression of esteem, and regard; they are both of them well, and meet with every degree of success both in a public, and a private light.

I was in the neighbourhood of London immediately after my arrival, waiting for the opportunity of paying my Duty at Court, when the count of Mr Dyson's death brought me to town, and the next day lifted Hands on

being reappointed Cofferer: your partiality to me will not render it indiff-
erent to you to hear, that the terms formerly made with me on my resigna-
tion of that office were fulfilled with very gracious marks of favor from
the King, and cordial instances of friendship from his servants: The vacancy
of my Seat in Parliament carried me directly to Southampton, where I
have secured my Re-election, with less difficulty, and by a larger Majority,
than ever yet promised me: I have since been living at Paulton, with a
very good and numerous Party who often join me in remembering you:
my new approach, which is now entirely finished, has an exceeding good
effect, and my other Improvements answer much to my satisfaction.

Of your Friends in these Regions, I have not much to say — Mr. Sloane
has been better than usual all the summer, and is now absent on a shooting
expedition in Norfolk and Suffolk; Sir Richard, and Mr. Edmund Worley
have both of them lately had sons; the latter is considered as his heir, by
Mr. Holmes, who is I think more absurd, and troublesome than ever, and
who daily sinks in his interest, and consideration.

It is to your part of the Globe, that we are constantly turning our eyes
with anxious hope to see past misfortunes, and mistakes gloriously repaired,
I am sorry to say, that the letter you enclosed to me from General Clinton does
not in my poor insignificant opinion remove much imputation of the
Latter, in the Charles Town Attack, I am a very faulty judge of these matters,
and perhaps do not perfectly take the sense either of the facts, or motives
alleged, but I confess that even upon his own stating, I can see neither
a sufficient utility in the undertaking, nor any marks of a sound decision
conduct in the steps resolved on to carry it into effect, either in the land
or sea part of the plan. Notwithstanding all these failures this country appear
to me to be more universally bent on the Assertion of their Dominion over
America, than I have ever known them upon any other point.

Oct: 8. 1776

I wish, much more than I hope, to see these unhappy scenes closed, that you may occupy again your old quarters in King's Garden, and share with me in the amusements of Hampshire, where you are often regretted, and where, however attached I am to your more essential advantages, I cannot sometimes be so disinterested as not to concur in the sentiments of my neighbours, notwithstanding I hear with much pleasure, that your situation answers, not only in point of honour (which must ever attend you when employed) but of profit, which tho' a secondary object to you, who are I think sure to rise high in the Navy, is not indifferent to me who wish you every present circumstance of ease and prosperity — I am very clear that these emoluments, are the spoils of the unrighteous, and much good may they do you! — In concluding my letter it is scarce necessary for me to add, what is so well understood between us, that if you have any commands of any kind at home, they cannot be trusted in more zealous hands, than those of, My Dear Sir,

Yours most Grateful, and obliged

Obedient Humble Servant

H. Stanley

Col: Brown went in the Spring to the Cape of Good Hope, being advised to try a warmer climate, and intending to pursue his voyage to India, if the experiment succeeded, but his health was so extremely bad, that I fear the contrary, I have not heard of him, or from him since he left England.

Priory Garden. Nov^r 29^d 1776.

Dear Sir,

It is at the Distance, at which we write to one another somewhat difficult to avoid the inconvenience of our Letters cropping ~~overshoots~~, and I believe, you will have heard from me since Yours last; I wish the good Behaviour of Felix may have so continued, as to make the Cautions, I have given you about him less necessary, than they appeared to me; I am sorry to say, that he is apt to relapse after some of these lucid intervals; Col: De Broussas assured me, that nothing could be more proper than his whole Conduct during some Months after his Arrival at Lausanne, and yet that Period was soon followed by the very worst page in his History. I am glad to find from you, that he does not lose any Opportunities of pushing himself forward, indeed I never suspected want of Spirit to be in the List of his Defects; His Father was a very brave man, and his Uncle was one of the most distinguished Officers (of his Rank) in the King of Sardinia's Service, and tho' now retired, is still taken the most particular Notice of at that Court, whenever

Much is due to General Carleton, who was the first to stem this Torrent, but some of our Speculators at home conceive that if he had not bestowed so much time in strengthening himself (as they say) more than was necessary upon the Lakes, and had pursued the Rebels more immediately, the War would have been ~~near~~ a conclusion, he met however with a considerable resistance, and if he had failed, complaints of a different Nature, and of a still more serious kind would have arisen.

You will certainly have heard much of our Approensions of a foreign War; I am so much out of the secret of Affairs, that my Information to you deserve little Weight, as far as I could form any Guess, as to the Probability of an Attack from France, what I have seen in my late Tour did not give me any particular Reason to fear, there was no Tendency towards a Rupture with us in the King, or his present Ministry, The Danger has arisen rather from the Side of Spain, which Court has been long ill intentioned to us, tho' the present Dispute is between them, and Portugal, and if we are engaged in it, we shall be drawn in as Allies to the latter, who by the by are extremely in the wrong in this Quarrel. It began long ago in the Bravils about the Colony of St Sacrement, and it's Claims, but was pacified thro' our Mediation and that of the French jointly exerted; Orders were agreed to be sent to the respective Governors on both sides, which the Spaniards very honourably, and punctually complied with, but the Portuguese totally omitted, and on the contrary made an Attack upon a Spanish Settlement, which they took, and put the Inhabitants to the Sword,

This could not but be deservedly resented, but however was not taken up quite inecorably, and as I heard in the Summer was made up on promise of a full, and formall Apology, and of punishing the Individuals, who had been guilty of this barbarous Aggression; But I am afraid the Marquis De Bombale has since held a very shuffling insincere Conduct, and that matter grew afterwards more exasperated; I am told however that (very lately) they are cooled again, and it seems by the Stocks keeping up to be the more general Idea, that at length they will be pacified; it would be very unfortunate for us at such a critical Conjunction to be drawn into this new, and most formidable Difficulty, and yet, I take it that our Treaties are very strongly Binding, and do not leave us the liberty of enquiring which of the Parties are in the right: Our Armament is said to have had a very good effect abroad, and to have inspired us little awe into those who might think the present, a proper opportunity to slight our intervention.

You will see by the News papers, that matters go well in the East Indies, and that Hastings has resigned, so that Divisions seem to be at an End, and Clavering is at the Head of the Company whose Situation is now flourishing, as they have paid a very large Proportion of their Debt, and are proceeding to discharge the rest: an increase of Dividend is likewise talked of as certain

Parliament goes on quietly, and is little attended; most of the Members are returned into the Country as it is soon to be adjourned, the Opposition is quite Alasmost, there having been only one Debate and that a very short one on the first Day of their Meeting.

You may depend upon one Fact, which to me was very unexpected, namely, that our Manufactures go on (notwithstanding the American War) as briskly as ever; I have this truth as the result of very particular enquiries in the principal Towns; the Revenue will also this year turn out higher than it has ever been known.

As I write from a very inactive Scene, I am afraid of tiring you with things you already know, and therefore shall conclude, with a very little that relates to myself, and to your private Friends; you will hear from Mrs Hoare, whose Family is going to increase, I have either made your Compliments, or I have your Letter to those others for whom ~~we~~^{you} gave your order, they are very sensible of your attention. I have no news of Col: Brewer since he sailed for the Cape of Good Hope, and expect with Anxiety to know whether he is in this world? or in what Part of it? Mrs Brewer is returned to England, but neither I, nor any of my Friends are acquainted therewith from her, nor can I tell where she is: I had the other Day the honor of a few Lines from Mrs Hunter at Wyndmington to enquire after you; I was so happy, as to be able to give her a satisfactory answer, and to find this opportunity of offering my poor Services if during your absence they could prove

at all useful to her, or to any part of your Family.

My own History, since I last wrote is extremely short, and simple: Notwithstanding what you may have seen in the News Papers, I had no Opposition at my Election, nor did any Competitor offer, tho' a few foolish Hand Bills, and Advertisements were published; I remained however at Moulton. till this Affair was over, i.e. for about two Months, with I think more Society, and more pleasure even than usual; Our Fox hunting was admirable, I followed it very constantly, ~~and~~ am perfectly well mounted, and as fond of the Diversion as at twenty years old: We made one excursion of about ten Days to Steep hill, Sir Richard, and Lady Worsley were my Guests, their House not being yet ready to receive them, we had the Miss Prossers, and Miss Moore, a good deal of Music and Catch singing.

The Autumn has been the finest I ever remember, and I have likewise had the Employment of over looking my Workmen, for I am giving some additional Fences to my Park; The new Entrance from Kewbury has answered beyond my expectation, and I am making a Border of open Grove with Sycamores it round the Lawn in the South Front, and preparing to set about my Menagerie; all which I hope to shew you, when your Country can spare you.

Your kind mention of the State of my Health will excuse my saying, that it was somewhat impaired in the Summer, when you left us, but that I think it now much fortified having had only

one very slight bilious Attack since I left Spá, where I found the
waters so salutary to me, that I am determined to repeat them
next Summer, and I flatter myself that the American War will
not be so long, but what we shall both of us meet as well, and
better than we parted.

I am going soon to Althorp, and shall pass the Christmas
Holy days at Steep hill, and at Broadlands, where there is to be a
very good Party. However, and wherever I am, My Dear Sir, nothing
can be more unalterable than the Affectionate Attachment with
which I must during life remain,

Yours most Faithful

Obedient Humble Servant

H. Stanley

Is can any thing can be done for
Felix, it will be necessary, that he
should give you proper Documents
as to the time of his Service, and the
different Ships: How shall we manage
the circumstances of his having absented
himself from one of them in Jamaica?

Broadlands. Jan: 12th 1778

I am very sensibly touched, my Dear Friend, with your having only for a Moment an Idea, of it's being possible for me to have forgot you; Nothing but the Honor, and Advantage, you are acquiring can comfort me for your Absence, and I do assure you that I look forward with the utmost Impatience for the Time, when you will be again able to occupy your little Apartment in Privy Garden, and to partake of my Retirement at Paulsone. I flatter myself, that whatever Events may intervene to delay our Meeting a great part of the Remainder of my Life will be passed in your Society, which I deserve to share from my warm, and constant Attachment.

I am not upon a Review of Dates altogether so blameable as a Correspondent, nor has any thing like a Twelve Month passed since I received your Answer which is of the 28th May, and as I was abroad this Summes did not reach me till a long time after it arrived in England; I should however have been more regular, and more expeditious in my Answer, if I had not been allways in Expectation of Events, and had not waited to hear again from you, in order to be able to write you

any thing from hence which could be at all worth your Attention.

As to every thing that relates personally to yourself, it has been with the highest Pleasure, that I have seen you every Day rising in Character, and Reputation, so as to be early in point both of Years, and military Grades, considered as an eminent Officer, upon whose Services this Country will depend upon the greatest Occasions: I am very sorry to say that as to the general Conduct of the American War, there is but too much Truth in your Suspicion, that it would be thought here, that very little was done, considering the Forces that have been employed: I am persuaded, that there may be not only much bad reasoning, but much injustice in many of the Animadversions, which I daily hear, and I beg you will believe that I do not join in them having not only the most cordial good wishes towards, but the highest Opinion of your Commanders, but as you may think it not impertinent to know the Language held here, I shall impart to you some of the Criticisms that occur the most frequently: The Defeat of General Burgoyne has not a little contributed to sow the Minds of People at home, and to give Weight to them.

It is in the first Place objected, that the Plan of the Campaign whether from Error in the Cabinet, or in the Field has been ill concerted; that it might have been a very good Project to have made the Reduction of the Northern Provinces your Capital Design, and that in this View the March of Gen^l Burgoyne from Ticonderoga would have been a judicious Measure if he had ~~advanced~~ proceeded from Fort Edward towards Boston, and if Sir Wm

Howe had gone up the Hudson's River to have cooperated with him by a Junction or otherwise, as circumstances rendered it convenient, having at the same time the Navy upon the Coast, and with all their united Efforts subduing such resistance as might have been found in those Provinces, and thereby compelling them to Submission; but it is thought that if this Cooperation was not intended, the March to New York by Sasatoga, was not only highly dangerous, but totally useless, and that it would have been better after securing the Frontier of Canada, to have sent that Army by Sea to the South. The Disappointment, and indeed the Surprise of the Publick was very great, when the News came of Sir Wm Howe being gone to Philadelphia, as it was then foreseen that Burgoyne must fail for want of his Assistance, his Dispatches having informed us in how precarious a Situation he stood; what has added to the Discontent is, that Sir Wm Howe had received the same Intelligence before he left New York, and (as it is said) had been much-persuaded by some of his Officers to turn his Arms Northward.

It is likewise observed, that he opened the Campaign too late, and the March to attack Washington in the Jerseys is much censured, so much more time not being to be afforded without a better Prospect, that an Officer not deficient in Conduct, would against his Interest be drawn to an Engagement, in case he could not be compelled, and some there are, who think, that when our Army was there, it is somewhat extraordinary, that in so long a line as the Rebels had to defend, no opening, or no weak Place could be found thro' which we might penetrate, that considering the other Objects, which must

fail by retreating from thence, and adopting that Series of Measures since pursued, that even a Degree of Temerity, might have been more eligible. Neither is it thoroughly well understood, why Sir Wm Howe landed in Chesapeake Bay instead of going up the Delaware as far as the Obstructions made by the Enemy allow'd him to sail, which would have saved much time; some of the Steps since his Landing are also the subject of Reflection; it is thought that he did not sufficiently pursue his Advantage on the Schuylkill in going to Philadelphia, when he might perhaps by following his Flow with Rapidity have put the Provincial Army hors de Combat for the future; That he was afterwards very near being totally defeated by a surprise, and that the Want of Intelligence in the first Attempt upon ~~that~~ ^{Red Bank} Island was inexcusable, and the more so because there could have been no great difficulty, in carrying scaling Ladders, whether it had, or had not been necessary to use them.

General Burgoyne on his part does not escape Censure, it is said that his Orders will not be found so peremptory, as he alledges, that at all Events a Commander in Chief, more particularly at such a Distance must be understood as vested with a discretionary Power, that he ought not to have passed the Hudson's River till he was more sure of a Junction; that his Attack of Pennington should have been supported with a more sufficient Force, with his whole Strength if requisite, as every possibility of Safety depended upon it; when the Conduct of both these Operations is combined I am sorry to find People are but ill satisfied with the general Superintendency of Sir Wm Howe, whether his Orders were express to support Burgoyne, or whether this latter being under his Command, he was to consider his Corps

as a Part of his own Army, which ought to have been protected: nor does the acquiring Philadelphia, while Washington remains in Force appear a conclusive Event as to the Reduction of the Rebels, much less an Equivalent for the Ruin of all our other Affairs. What will be said if for Want of Provisions it should be evacuated? or if N. York should be lost being left so bare of Defence?

Such is the long, and heavy Charge of positive Imputations, that are circulated with regard to the Conduct of our Leaders, but as military Characters are to be judged upon what they have done worthy of Applause, as well as upon what may be liable to censure, it is likewise asked in what Instance any Superiority of Abilities, any Exertion of Talents, any wise spirited and Gallant Enterprise, any Stratagem to evade our own Difficulties, or to reduce our Enemies to distress has been found to counterbalance much that is supposed to have been amiss, and how the public Expectation formed from an Opinion of great military Talents at the Head of disciplined Troops opposed to those who (without entertaining a ridiculous Contempt for them) may be naturally thought inferior, how such an Expectation, I say has been answer'd?

I am convinced, My Dear Sir, that this Picture of the Sentiments entertained here will be as unpleasant for you to read, as it is to me to write, but it would be treating you with too much Reserve to conceal from you the general Dissatisfaction that prevails, as I dare say you will hear from your other Correspondents, tho' perhaps not with so much Freedom or so much in Detail. I can only say that I wrote it most confidentially to you, as I know your Connexions, and

trust, that you will not quit me in the invidious Predicament of a Messenger of ill Tidings, or odious Reports; All this you are therefore to understand is entirely for your own private Use.

Notwithstanding all Disappointments, and the temporary Dejection occasioned by the Event at Saratoga, I do not find this Country less disposed to persist; The great Nobility, and many of the principal Trading Towns are raising Regiments, and subscribing Money for this Service nor do I hear of any alterations in the House of Parliament; So that I think Matters are likely to be pushed on as long as we are able to levy a Man, or to raise a Shilling, I confess to you, that my own Hopes are not sanguine, and that I have never seen the Country so much at a Non plus for as to the Expedient proposed by the Opposition of withdrawing our Troops, and afterwards proposing a Treaty to the Americans, it seems to me direct Madness in every View, either of Peace or War.

I find that there has been during the Holy days a great Alarm with regard to a rupture with France: The Stocks are amazingly fallen, whether owing to those Reports, or to the Opinion that Government will want a large Sum of Money this year: The general Idea that I formed in my late Journey to the Continent has been that the French King not being of a military Disposition, his Finances excessively deranged, and his Ministers far advanced in years, that Event was not probable at least for some time, or upon a premeditated Design on their Side, tho' not unlikely to happen by some casual Encounter at Sea, or by their trying a little too far beyond the

mark, how much our Patience would bear, having entertained this Notion, I do not hastily believe that we shall soon be in a State of open Hostilities with France unless they should be engaged to make an Alliance with the Americans as an independent State upon so great an Offer of commercial Advantage, as may tempt them from their first Resolution; of this however according to my Conceptions there is some Danger, for I believe you know I have long said in Parliament, and perhaps to yourself often in private Conversation, that I had no Notion of the Americans being able carry on their Affairs, without some particular, and very close Connection, with a Trading and a warlike European Power, and the Conjecture is such as may well tempt them to make this proposal to the House of Bourbon.

I am not in the least surprised at Vint's Behaviour abroad, or at his return Home, if any thing could retain his Vice and Folly within Bounds, it was your immediate Inspection, but I never had any confidence in his Conversion; he has written to me from Town, where he is arrived, and encloses a Paper, from which if he has not altered the Cypher, it appears that he is of Age I shall consequently settle with him, and have advised him to seek for some cheap Place where he may live upon the Income of his Fortune; Swiperland is no home for him, he has forfeited that Retreat by former ill Behaviour — I have the Comfort of having done my Duty, tho' in vain towards the son of a late dear and

valuable Friend, but shall think no more of him except when I recollect how much I am obliged to you for the Protection you have so long, and so indulgently shewn him.

! Longford another of your Clients, I am afraid, more from your Generosity than his own Merit has the Command of a very good Ship, that Alderman Harley has given him.

! I believe I need not say, how happy I should be to serve Mr Rushton mentioned in yours of May 28th, but I have no Connection beyond a common visiting acquaintance with Mr Grenville's upon his Father in Law L^d Nugent I have some better Claims, but I found on proposing him in behalf of your Friend, that he has been himself refused by Mr Grenville on Account of his being so deeply mortgaged by Promises, that it would be misleading any young Man to give him hopes of a future Vacancy among his Clerks: I am exceedingly sorry for this Want of Success, and hope it will not discourage you from laying your future Commands upon me, if you see any chance of my being of use to you.

! I have just mentioned above my Excursion upon the Continent, where I staid for about three Months at Paris, Chanteloup, Brupell, and Spa; you are much, and kindly remembered by Mom^r and M^r de Staremberg, who had heard with Pleasure of the Honors and Advantages you were acquiring; the Waters of Spa were very beneficial to me, and confirmed the good Effects I had received

from them last year, so that I have reason to flatter myself that
 my bilious Complaints are radically cured; since my Return, I passed
 the Autumn very agreeably between Steeple and Boulton, till the
 Meeting of Parliament; since our Adjournment I have been at
 Althorp, from whence I came hither where your Letter found me;
 The Lord of this Habitation (now as you will have understood
 a Commissioner of the Treasury) desires his kindest Compliments to
 you: I flatter myself the Indisposition you mention to have
 arisen from Changes of Climate is past, as you say nothing of it
 in your later Letters, but I should have been glad to have heard
 more particularly about your Health; Most of your Friends
 here are well; Keywood is returned, and seems determined against
 leaving us for more foreign Excursions; Clavering writes like a
 Man resolved to leave India, but as there seems to be a great Proba-
 bility of Hastings being recalled, some People imagine he will
 continue there: I suppose you have heard that Lord Cadogan is
 married to Miss Sherrill, a young Lady whom you saw with me
 on board the Roe Buck at Yarmouth; I have been twice with them
 at Caupham, and can assure you that the Experiment turns out
 very favourably for the middle aged Gentlemen: Mr Sloane left us
 about a week ago being gone to London, where Mrs Sloane is soon
 expected to lie in: I have seen nothing of Holmes for some time,
 and am sorry to tell you, that he is very weakly proceeding to ruin
 his Consequence and Interest in the Isle of Wight as speedily, and as
 effectually as he can; having again put himself into the Hands of

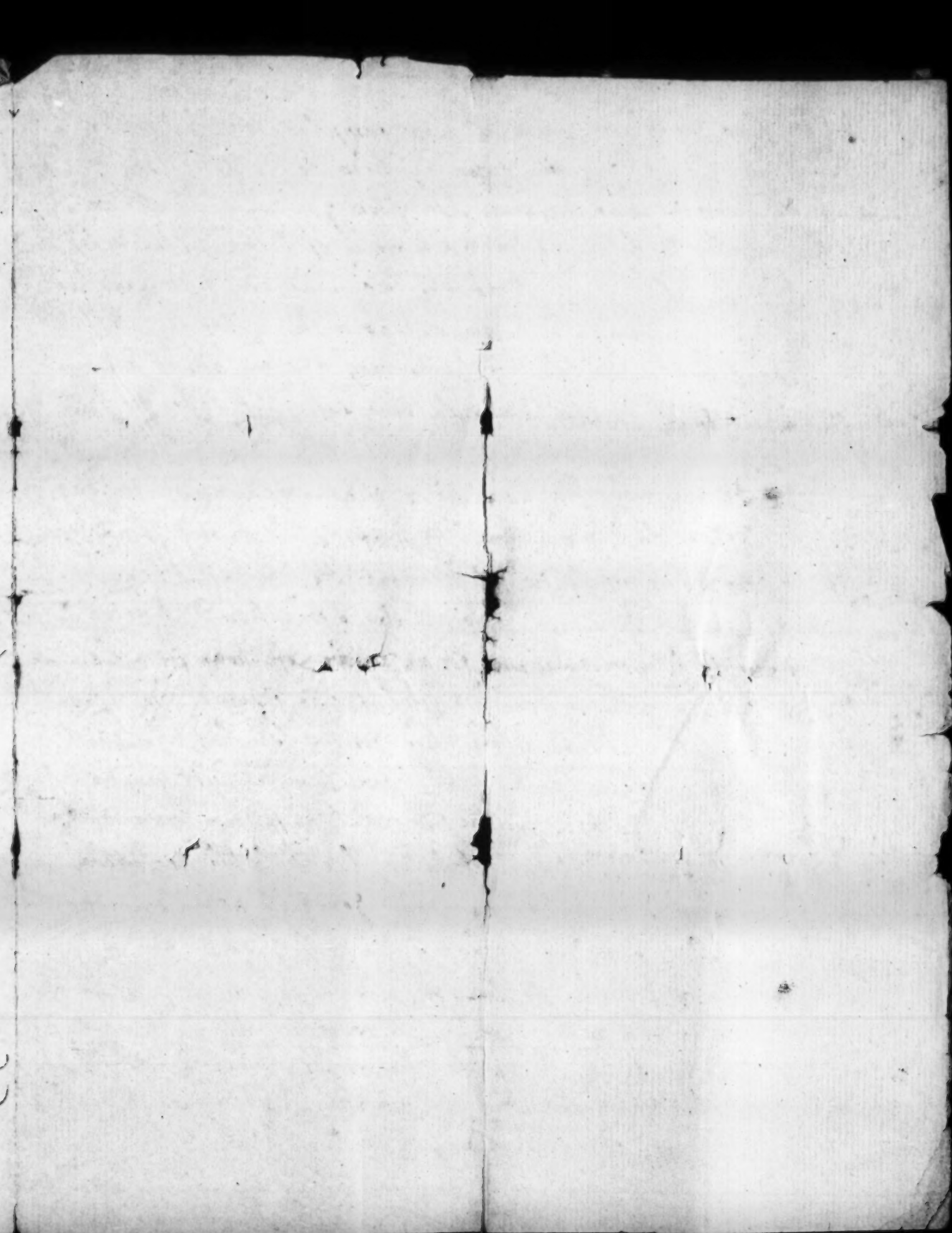
his Son in Law, notwithstanding a most complicated warning which this latter gave him by openly opposing him on the Elections of Mayor at Newport and New Ton, I suppose you have heard how very shamefully he behaved to Mr Worley of Pittford; I think the Disposal of the Isle of Wight Borough is coming very fast into the Hands of his kinsman Sir Richard, who is lately made a Clerk of the Board of Green Cloth; if I was very anxious about my own Influence in that Country, I should have sufficient Cause to be dissatisfied.

I have now, My Dear Sir, a Matter to mention to you, in which it may be in your Power to be of Service to me; I had as you know a Son at School at Newport, He was rather neglected there, and upon his Removal to Winchester, I find from Dr Weston, that he seems to be more qualified for an active Life than for a learned Profession, I shall however consider farther, and consult him before I determine whether I shall destine him for the Sea, but will you give me Leave in case I take that Resolution to put him under your Care? it would give me the utmost Satisfaction, and would afford him the fairest Chance of future Success in his Profession, if your Answer is in the affirmative you will not be surpris'd to see him arrive some Day on Board the Roe Buck.

I am returning to London, where I expect a Winter of great Altercation and much Fatigue; I conclude with the most cordial good wishes to you in the very honourable tho' difficult Station to which you are appointed; and am with the most cordial Affection

Your very Faithfull Obedt Servt

H. Stanley



Mr. Stanley
Jan 1770

Priny Garden. May 10th 1778.

Dear Sir,

I receiv'd your Favor of Feb: 1st with
that Pleasure, which must allways attend the news of your Health,
and well being, to which no publick Events however disastrous
can make ^{me} less attentive, I most sincerely congratulate you that
even in these last your own considerable Share has been as success-
full as meritorious; had our Affairs upon a still larger Scale
been as fortunately conducted, I should not now be to lament the
Misfortunes which have obliged this Country to lay aside those
Measures, from which I see you ~~still~~ continued to hope a decisive
Advantage would still be derived; and I dare say your Opinion
would have proved to be well founded if Great Britain,
And America had been singly opposed to each other; but I have
ever looked with more deep concern upon the Calamities of the
last Campaign, as I saw they would produce the farthest Mischiefs,
which have happened in Europe; As my own Reason assisted by
all the Information I could acquire either here or in France, did
not leave me a Doubt of that Nation's interfering if the War

was prolonged to another, and so much persuaded was I of this Truth, that I have all along thought that Operations which might in general be thought too rash, and hazardous were in such a Crisis both justifiable, and even prudent.

You will have heard of the unusual Aggravation with which France has notified the present rupture, and the news of C^{te} d'Estain's sailing may probably have reached you; we have all here been greatly alarmed for the Danger of your Position, if he arrives in the Delaware, before the Assistance which is coming to you from hence; the immediate Approach is however somewhat abated by the news of his being put into the Port of Cadix, which is believed here upon two Letters received one from Paris, and the other from Gibraltar. That Fleet was fitted out with more Expedition, than was here believed practicable, Sailors, Stores &c: having been transported from Brest to Toulon, thro' the Interior of the Kingdom; I hear however that it still wants some Articles, which are to be put on board at Cadix; supposing our Intelligence to be true, and them in the said Port; there are various Conjectures, that of their awaiting your Force, that of their dividing into two Squadrons (one, for the East, and the other for the West Indies) and lastly that of their going to Brest, in which Case they will prove superior in

Number of Ships upon our own Seas, supposing them join'd with the Spaniards; I find there are Doubts entertained, or affected upon this Point, and the Disavowals of the Court of Madrid are very strong, and explicit, but the State of their Armaments very plainly contradicts them.

I shall dwell no longer upon a Prospect, which in all it's different views appears to me so gloomy, and that gives me Sensations about publick Affairs, which in a Life now somewhat advanced I had never felt before.

I had the Honor of writing some time since my humble Thanks to Lord Howe for his Protection intended to Iselin, who after Adventures with which I grow tired of troubling you, as well as myself is now at Lausanne: I settled the rest of his Accounts with him, while he remained here, but his sudden and strange Departure a second Time prevented his receiving my Transfers of two Sums, which are more than sufficient to discharge the Debt you contracted on his behalf; I have writt him your claim upon him, which he acknowledges, and submits to the Precautions, I shall carefully take to settle it; I should indeed ~~myself~~ at all Events have deem'd myself responsible for what your Goodness to me might have engag'd you to do.

I am sensibly touch'd with your recollection of Paulton,
and I look forward with that sort of Emotion to the time
when your Country will be able at intervals to spare you for
that private Society, to which you allways so agreeably contribute
and which must prove our best Consolation, in the diminished
State of publick Splendor, which approaches but too fast. I am
lately returned from my usuall Anniversary, and I propose
making Lord Buckingham a Visit this Summer at Dublin;
You will doubtless have heard of the very spirited and Patriotic
Conduct of the Irish in the present Crisis, which we are going to
return by conferring upon them Privileges and Advantages in
Trade, of which I have long thought they have been harshly, as
well as impolitically debar'd; this Affair meets with some
Difficulties from local Prejudices, but will however find its way
in part this Session, and the rest in the next. Adieu My Dear
Sir, and believe me to be ever with the most entire Friendship

Yours Faithfully and affectionately
Humble Servt

H. Stanley

Mrs. Sloan, and Mr. Senhinson
are both well, and desire to be
remember'd to you. P. S. I am desired by Lord Parker, for whom
I have a great Regard to recommend Mr. Drake to you, and I shall
be much oblig'd to you for any kindness shewn him.